

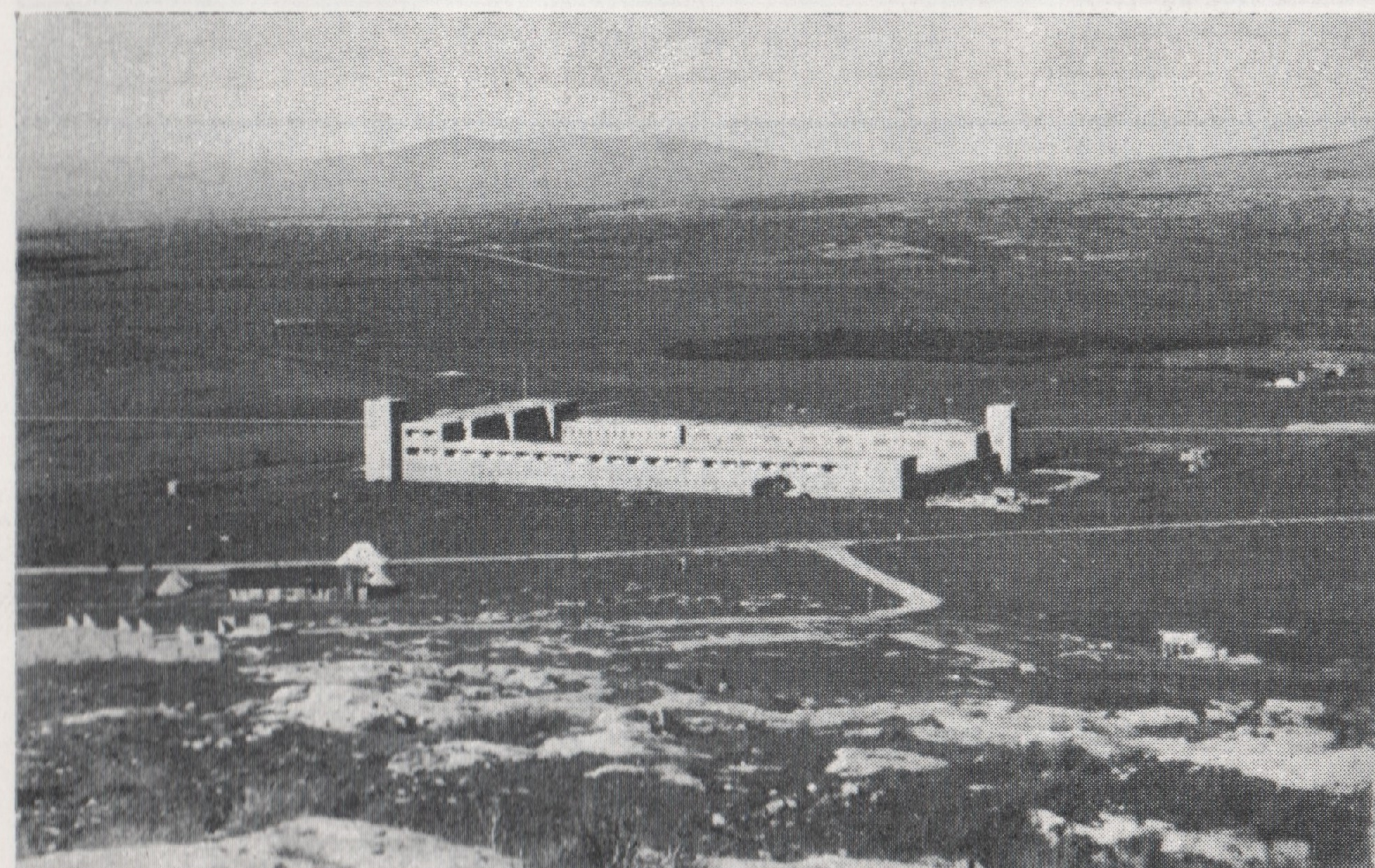


PALESTINE POLICE OLD COMRADES' ASSOCIATION

EDITOR

E. P. HORNE, B.E.M. 11 Dolphin Place, Barton on Sea,
New Milton, Hampshire, BH25 7DR Tel: New Milton 618306

NEWS LETTER



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Treasurer: S. P. Johnson

19 The Crest, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5NJ
Tel: 0702 521805

SPECIAL NOTE

To all Branch Secretaries and other contributors:
Material for the June 1984 issue of the News Letter should be
in the hands of the Editor by 5th April, 1984.

WORDS FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

Have you seen the Palestine Police Recruiting Film? Made by the former Crown Film Unit circa 1946. Would you like to see it? Why not buy a copy? The film is now available on Video (VHS) and the price is about £15.00 plus postage.

The picture quality is quite good although there are two short lengths where the sound is rather poor but this does not spoil the overall result. The film has been difficult to get in the past, and even more difficult to store in such a way that it did not damage further. But it is now preserved and widely available for the first time (All you have to do is to find a friend with a VHS Video). In the course of the film one or two well known faces pop into focus (see if you can spot Dorothy Foster for instance) and some of the views tend to jog the memory. Anyone interested please write to me.

JOHN FOSTER

WISDOM FROM THE TREASURER

We want your money — or so states an old advertisement by which we hope to extract dues from you. To qualify this further, we mean of course dues from those who do not pay by Bankers Order, or have not paid generously in advance whereby they are covered for several years ahead. We are really trying to remind the rest of you that now is the time to send in your annual subscription of £1.50 (at least) to me. BUT! BUT! BUT! There is more.

The newsletter levy for those who have not paid, is £2 per annum and this includes Life Members and that is also due now. As has been said on previous occasions "No newsletter levy — No newsletter".

Thus broken down to the realm of simple sums. It looks like this:

Life Members	£2.00 p.a.
All other Members (Associates, Donors etc)		£3.50 p.a.

For such excellent service, why not complete a Bankers Order for say £5.00 per year and then you can ignore this notice and still get your newsletter and go on record as a most generous fellow.

SIDNEY JOHNSON

Photograph on front cover: Jenin Tegart.c1941. Part of future PMF camp is at bottom left. Photograph from Bernard Smith.

BOOK REVIEW

Sir Gawain Bell, KCMG, CBE, who is a member of this association has published his memoirs which in 250 pages of very readable narrative deals for the most part with that section of his busy and interesting life among Arabs, chapter one being the exception. This amounts to a stretch of 26 years between 1931 and 1957. Sir Gawain is another product of the estimable Sudan Political Service undoubtedly a sort of 'corps d'elite' among Overseas Civil Services, and a service which nurtured so many prominent Arabist scholars and administrators, of whom the best known in the case of Palestine was the late Sir Harold MacMichael, a most able High Commissioner and the first President of this association. But four chapters of the book are close to home as far as our members are concerned and the first of these deals with the young Bell's appointment as Assistant District Commissioner in Galilee in 1938, a year of tumult and rebellion in Palestine. He held this job for two years before transferring to Beersheba, a place where his administrative division was almost as big as half of all Palestine. This was in 1939 and it takes up another chapter which I personally found of the greatest interest. Here he found himself involved with reforming the Camelry — disbanded during the Arab Troubles — and his scholarship in the Arabic language and in Arab (Beduin) Affairs must have been an immense benefit. The Camelry was of course a police unit, but in Beersheba the demarcation between matters police and matters civil administration was a constant and happy blurr which is why the A.D.C. Beersheba was usually an Honorary D.S.P. of Police. M. Hankin-Turvin was the actual A.S.P. during this period. A third chapter deals with the author's involvement in the Syrian campaign of 1941 in which he served with the Druse Cavalry and I suggest modestly understates his own part in that curious regiment's contribution to the campaign. There is also a chapter of his service in the Arab Legion under Brigadier J. B. Glubb, as he then was (Glubb Pasha) from 1942 to 1944, from which time he returned to the Sudan Government to become the Deputy Sudan Agent in Cairo. Sir Gawain finished his involvement with Arabs with an appointment in Kuwait which brings us to the end of his book, although not the end of his service to his country. Before retirement he was Governor of Northern Nigeria (significantly a place where the Hausa people formed a large Moslem population which meant they were 'Arabised' to some extent).

One has a refreshing feeling that Sir Gawain writes of Palestine as though looking through a window, but he sees, notes and observes a great deal and is able to write concisely of everything that he came across. Because of the loss of Empire, there will not be many more Bell's of this world to put their considerable experiences and talents into such a book as this and to those

readers who are interested in the Middle East scene before, during and immediately following the last war will find this particular book fills a gap and it will help to keep things in perspective. It is entitled 'Shadows on the Sand' published in the U.K. by C. Hurst & Co. Ltd., London 1983 with ISBN No. 0-905838-92-0 and by St. Martin's Press, New York 1983 with ISBN No. 0-312-71418-1. The price is £13.50. I am sure many of you will enjoy it.

EDITOR

HOME NOTES

This editor was in Jerusalem last November on a purely private visit and I stayed at The Holy Land Hotel, 6 Raschid Street, East Jerusalem and enjoyed a room overlooking the Old City. In the course of a very busy week, there were high moments of nostalgia. Both old and new Jerusalem betrayed signs of the former British occupation and the presence of familiar red pillar boxes bearing the Royal Cypher of King George V were among the most prominent. Foundation stones of many public buildings were another. Some drainage covers marked 'City of Westminster' seemed as out of place now as they did in the 1920's when first laid down. I met a taxi driver who was the son of John Kingsley-Heath's orderly and an unknown 'ancient' in an Arab cafe averred that the scar on his leg came from a Black Watch bullet. Unfortunately I missed the unveiling and dedication ceremony at the St. Andrews Scots Memorial Church, but a stroll one afternoon to the church by way of the railway station and then back past the windmill was almost pleasing experience. I suppose the highlight of the short amount of time I could devote to memory lane came when I was invited to visit the former Depot premises on Mount Scopus where my feelings became mixed. Looking on the bright side I was to find that the stone building was almost as we had left it in 1948. As I stood in the centre courtyard, I could almost hear the shouts of encouragement as Fitze's boxers dealt with each other in the open ring. The canteen windows were boarded up but I could be certain I heard the shouts of hungry recruits bawling "Fi kaman Ya wallad?" while the barber's shop retained its queue for a quick short back and sides. I have to confess to wallowing in a state of extreme melancholia and the ghosts of former comrades tried to aid my mind to recall things and the many moments of happiness tinged with activity and sometimes alarm. But then I turned to stare in the opposite direction and what should have been the drill square, the Holy of Holies, the sacred tarmac of Huskisson, Poole, Hunt, Kirton and a dozen others is now built over. I tried to take in where the

dog kennels had been, the transport lines, the married quarters and John Deevy's famous establishment. Abdul's old canteen which he managed for Spinney & Co is replaced by a sizeable building. I am aware that on the last trip to Israel by members of this association, Ted Wells drilled a few of the party on a spot in the depot, where Jack Fisher once said "This is where I grew up". Jack is no longer with us, but he was right. That is where a lot of us grew up. But I could not tarry as I had to keep an appointment at the Israeli Police Headquarters which is nearby and I left with mixed feelings, half sad and half happy. I am glad I went there of course but I might as well have visited the moon. Yet the ghosts are still there for those with ears to hear and I was comforted as I strolled past Nashashibi corner some two hours later. It is still recognisable in a manner of speaking, although a petrol station does nothing for the memory.

The Christmas cards certainly rolled in this season and the editor had 51 from members of the P.P. family. Our General Secretary had another 49 and there is reason to believe the Association Chairman and Treasurer had a full quota. Naturally we all thank those who so kindly sent us a seasonal card and we are all conscious of the fact that they arrived in such numbers that there is no hope of us being able to thank the donors individually. It must be obvious that our personal friends within the association make up the bulk of this number and this directs our thanks to a more manageable number when it becomes clear that many of the cards directed at a particular association officer are in effect, cards sent to the Central Council in general. A sort of seasonal token of thanks or at anyrate appreciation for services rendered by a pretty large team. It is invidious to mention any at all yet somehow those that arrived from overseas should get an acknowledgement. Thus it seems appropriate to thank the following:- Solo Epstein and Simcha Fromer (Israel), Rowena Matheson-Cullen (Turkey, once northern Cyprus and since the recent U.D.I. we are not sure what the territory has become), Hugh and Denise Johnston-Scott (Spain), Arthur New and Jim Hagarty (Australia), 'Abdullah Saleem abu Shaikheh (Qatar), Geoffrey and Puck Binstead (New Zealand) and Percy and Lee Cleaver (South Africa).

Our General Secretary, John Foster Esq. of an obscure parish in Middlesex who has held down a very hot seat within this association since 1973, a period of more than ten years of headaches, is threatening to retire from his employment in about two years or so. Doubtless he will have earned this state of grace within the social strata of the nation but has more than hinted that he and his wife might then contemplate a globe trotting holiday. Something that will take them to many lands. The days when a former Palestine Policeman met one of our kind at every remote landing strip in Africa, or ushered our members through

a V.I.P. gate in countries as far apart as Mauritius to the Seychelles — long way round, have long since gone. But as he will be something of an ambassador from Central Council, it would be a good opportunity for distant P.P. to foregather and assimilate his abundant energy, expertise and wisdom while one has the chance. Just a thought and in anycase it is only a rumour at the moment (a sort of cabinet leak if you like) and we must wait and see. But don't take him dancing. 'Rubberlegs Foster' has been known to clear the floor although we have not the slightest idea just how he earned that particular sobriquet.

The article in the last issue entitled Food for Thought (pages 51 to 53) has attracted some correspondence as of course it was designed to do. Those members who were kind enough to write to the Editor on the subject have had their letters or suitable extracts from such letters, forwarded to the General Secretary for him to collate into manageable material likely to assist Central Council in its deliberations on our future. It is surprising how opinions tended to be in agreement on fundamental issues but there have also been some interesting suggestions. All will be considered and meanwhile many thanks to those who kindly responded to the call. Mike Kelly of 1 Leeson Drive, Ferndown, Wimbourne, Dorset BH22 9QL was moved to write when he saw the photograph entitled '2nd Officers Training Course — Ramallah 1946' which appeared on page 28 of the last issue. He is pretty sure that the figure not named on the far right of the front row next to Head Const. Fish is 2885 A. D. Trutwein and in this he may be right. He recalls that Trutwein was a member of 'D' Squad that went through the Depot in 1938 and other members of that squad were Messrs Don Cameron, Vic Cannings, Paddy Carty, Charles Eadon-Clarke, N. Davidson (is it Nigel? - Ed.), John Early, George Hudson, Tom Robinson, Harry Thornton, V. Votier and himself. Well that turned out to be a nice piece of memory training and a happy one too. Although we are reminded that if we return to the Ramallah photograph again, we still have not been able to name the A/A.S.P. in centre front row. We think someone could do that for us, so take another look chaps. As a matter of fact it looks a wee bit like Neville Wilmshurst but we thought him to be in Haifa in 1946.

Tom Foley of 5 The Camerons, Rannoch Drive, Mansfield, Nottinghamshire NG19 6RX is one of those useful chaps whose memory can be relied upon for some quite astonishing details that most of us would have forgotten. Throughout last summer he wrote four times with useful pieces of information that filled gaps in our knowledge, particularly when we had not wrapped up the Stevens and Stephens mysteries, as they then were. But no longer, the names of both officers are now fully entered with correct details on the roll of honour and we are indebted to several readers and not just Tom Foley for the outcome. We have

it on our minds that we owe Tom a letter and, who knows, we plan to get round to it. Inshallah! The appeal on page four of the last issue for information regarding the late B/Constable Rodwell also brought fourth fruit, most of it helpful. Several readers recall that he was at one time in the 16th General Military Hospital, Jerusalem, which seemed to specialise in tuberculosis and allied illnesses, but the date previously thought to have been 1944 is now certain to be 1946. But we still do not know that he died in Palestine or elsewhere, nor do we now the date. Both are necessary for the Roll of Honour. We really are grateful for those kind souls who put pen to paper so as to help complete the picture.

We have to thank the Lovell Society for the Blind in Bible Lands for a copy of their Christmas Newsletter which keeps us informed of the various Schools for the Blind which the society supports in Jerusalem. Readers will notice that we donate a full page advertisement to the society in most issues in recent years and gladly give this service completely gratis. Something we intend to keep going provided we have the space. But in the last issue of the newsletter, there was an article which refers to St. Luke 2:4 when in just a few words it refers to Joseph leaving the town of Nazareth and journeying to Bethlehem which is really the prologue to all Christmas celebrations and is what carol singing is really all about. A map attached to the article gives the probable route taken by the small family on a donkey and covering a total distance of 95 English miles. It would have taken every bit of eleven days, even if travelling on at least one sabbath and with a pregnant lady to take care of. The route rolls off the towns of Affulah, Jenin, Dothen, Burka, Sebastieh (Samaria), Shechem (Nablus), Khan, Lubban, Shiloh, Bireh, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. The article points out a route that might have been considered as reasonable by travellers at the time but does not deal with the problem of Jews crossing the country belonging to nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ million Samaritans who often enacted payment to ensure freedom from robbers. In those days wise travellers to and from the north tended to use the coast roads or sometimes the quick Jordan Valley route, rather than trespass into Samaritan territory. Perhaps the family joined a huge protective caravan. We shall never know but the article brought happy Palestine memories at Christmastide for at least one former P.P. and it is to be hoped that we shall not forget this particular charity at any time in the future of this association.

Duncan McNeil of Barra, Kippford, Nr. Dalbeattie, Kirkcubrightshire DG5 4LL wrote a pleasant and informative letter as far back as last September, which missed the last issue for reasons which have become obscure. Friends will recall that he joined the force in 1946 as British Constable 3970 and went through the Jenin Depot. After training he was posted to Safed where Stacey Barham was the 'Jibni Kabir' and a B/Insp Stevens and

a B/Sgt Morrison evidently made an impression upon Duncan. Another man there in those days was Hector Carlyle. Then in 1947 he went to Salha. What a happy and busy time he recalls on the frontier. There were three posts in a line, Sa Sa, Salha and Nebi Yusha and of those who were his pals in this section of P.P. life were: Sgt Bunyard, Constable Jock Alexander (M/T driver), Dobinson, Dink Edwards, Robertson, Ross, Ginger Brooks, Morris, Davis, Lawrence, Jock Muirhead, Fordham, Van de Pol to name but a few. That well known character Ian McDonald Lovie was also around. Is the R. H. Suttle mentioned in the Change of Address Section in the last September issue (No. 132 — Ed) the same chap who was at Safed and Salha with him? he asks. At Sa Sa post he also remembers Wadsworth, Beattie and Mansfield. He recalls abandoning Salha in January 1948 and going to Haifa where in due time a large party of P.P. boarded the "Samaria" in April. An appropriately named vessel in the circumstances. "Armageddon" might have been even more apt. Duncan moved on to useful and gallant service in Malaya and then Hong Kong where he did 22 years in the police service and retired as Deputy Director of the C.I.D. Yes on reflection a pleasant letter tinged with much sadness and we are grateful for his recall of so many names. If he wants to trace Ian Lovie by the way, he need look no farther then Canberra A.C.T. Australia. He pops up in the newsletter from time to time.

Our members seem to love a mystery and many rise to the challenge when we throw one on the table from time to time, to chew over. Lets see how this little conundrum works on you all. J. A. (John) Briance writing from 14 Pitt Street, Kensington, London W8 4NY (against which we have a pencilled note to read 'See also Whose Who' and that is something we have not got round to doing yet) John was scratching through some old papers recently, as we are all apt to do from time to time and he came across an envelope which appears to have been posted in Hebron 1944 by former B/Sgt 1570 McCabe, then at Beit Jibrin. There is no particular story attached to the find except that John thought that McCabe would like to have the envelope back as a curiosity. But we do not seem to have a McCabe listed in the membership lists, or even on record as a lapsee. So where is he? and what is more to the point Who is he? We had a Jim McCabe listed as an A.S.P. towards the end of our days in Palestine but knoweth not where he is now. Any news? Meanwhile we must get round to perusing Whose Who, it might turn out to be important.

Apart from visiting Palestine in earnest quite recently, this editor paid another visit to that sacred land on 14th August 1983 and stayed there for exactly 10 minutes. This time we refer to the place of that name which is situate just off the B3084 road near Grately, Hampshire. The general National Grid co-ordinate being 265405. It was a fun expedition of course and has been mentioned

in previous newsletters when David Cranston could be seen against a sign post marked Palestine (front cover of issue 112) and the late Taffy Hughes was enthusiastic to report about subsequently. We stopped the motor car in Mount Carmel Road to gaze about us and decided the place was 'quaint' to say the least, with one or two local idiosyncrasies to suggest eccentricity by some of those who dwell there. There was a Mount Sinai and not far away a place called Egypt and all redolent of a World War 1, housing estate. So if someone wants to take his grandchildren to the Middle East, one Sunday afternoon and one is near the Wiltshire/Hampshire border. Give it a visit. One whole minute will be sufficient and a bar lunch afterwards will help to recover from what can only be described as a slightly weird place.

Plot 301 at the opening of the Westminster Abbey Memorial Plot on 10th November 1983 was a resounding success. A fine coloured picture submitted by A. F. (Terry) Burke reveals a Palestine Police Plot simply covered with poppy crosses. We were able to count up to about 75 identifiable crosses from the photograph, but then the distance blurr was too much to continue. The final figure looks to be much more. The P.P. turnout was also impressive: T. H. (Terry) Shand, the Association Chairman, John and Dorothy Foster, S. W. (Micky) Hills, Tom and Connie Walker and George Andrews all from Central Council, added to which there were: Peter and Joan Lee, Mike and Betty Brackston, Alf and Day Burns, Mrs. 'Muff' Bennett, George Stewart, Norman Reagan, Ken Judd, George Minnet, Geoffrey and Phyllis Tymms, Bob and May Turner, Mrs. Pauline Shaw, Mrs. Nancy Haubner, Mrs. Holly Newsham, and Les Stellfox. The support for this event is actually increasing which invites congratulations as well as thanks to all those who attended and to those who subscribed towards a poppy cross to be placed on the memorial plot.

We have heard from Mrs. Doris Goodwin, 7 Brook Lane, Great Barford, Bedfordshire who recalls many of the P.P. ladies she knew in Palestine as well as many former friends such as Tich and Elsie Curtis, Mrs. Muff Garside, and her brother Kennedy Bennet, Mrs. Elsie Webb, the late Harold Darling, Coleman and Imrie in Beersheba days and finally 'Norker' Hoskins. We have also heard from another Bedford lady, this time Mrs. Doris White, 20 Bosswell Court, Bedford also Bill Ridgard, 85 Bridle Road, Burton Joyce, Nottinghamshire NG14 5FS who writes to point out that former P.P. are eligible to join the Royal Legion under Article 7.1.3. of the Royal Charter, should they so desire. The average annual membership fee is about £2 and is a wonderful bargain. If anyone has any difficulties on this score it is suggested they write to Bill Ridgard as he is a R.B.L. official in his area and he can perhaps iron out some wrinkles. W. (Bill) Segrue, QPM., CPM. of 3 Upcher Court, Sheringham, Norfolk NR26 8LY is another from whom we have had news and it is good to hear from him. J. E.

(Jim) Smith, Croft Cottage, 56 Loan, Hawick, Roxburghshire TP9 0AX who kindly lent us a photograph that will be of newsletter interest. J. J. (Dan) McGlew of Boyerstown House, Navan, Co. Meath, Irish Republic was another who has been in contact with the General Secretary and from whom it is good to hear. It is likely that his name will appear soon as a Rejoined Member which should please his old friends. Finally on this present section of letters the name of Arthur Kanis must be added to the list. He lives at Arenka, Roncon Del Silencio 5, Benidoleig, Alicante, Spain. He points out that he joined the force in 1947 and cannot be confused with a former A/A. S. P. Kanis about whom we know little but whose name keeps cropping up in various avenues of P.P. research. We shall try to remember that. While in Benidoleig, we come to consider the place as having an interesting name. All the Beni's in Spain have an Arabic connection Beni Carlo (Beni Kharlid), Benidorm (Beni Durm) and so forth. There are about seven of these 'give aways' and in the case of the two already named, both are tribes still existence in Arabia, whose ancestors had land connections in Spain in the days of the Ummayed Caliphs. Where not an Arabian connection there seems to be a Moroccan association. There are no prizes for finding all the Beni's because this is just dropped in to interest those with a historical bent. As they say.

It is doubtful whether we shall ever have an Austrian Branch, but when we received a postcard recently from Villach, Austria signed Tom Urwin, 250 Moshe Dickson 210 and U. Pernetta 608 and addressed to 'Ted Effendi' which a startled postman was led to ask "Who are the comics?", then it did seem that an Austrian branch was making its branch report. A rather more fulsome report than we might expect from South Wales Branch which is nearer home, or Korea Branch which once boasted 11 former P.P. but none knew that the other ten were there. Full marks for the central European initiative. The card was well received and it is only to be regretted that the late Bill Messer was not present to add his signature. Perhaps he was there in spirit. Those writting to our fraternity in Portugal are asked to ensure that the local post code gets into the address. The Portuguese authorities are getting a bit terse about it. Thus A. (Tony) Burney, CPM. can find his amendment duly promulgated under Changes of Address. P. A. (Peter) Cashford has his code included somewhere else in this newsletter where his name and address are quoted while J. M. de Meza is at Serra e Mar, 31, 8500 Portimao, Algarve. Finally there is Mrs. Thomlinson (widow of the late Ken), who also lives in the Algarve but without the benefit in our records of her post-code.

A lot of kind people have sent us photographs — and things — either for possible newsletter use, or for the archives. We are grateful. We are tempted to thank them in bulk, but then feel this

will not do at all. Thus individually we owe thanks to: Jim Haines, Jim Smith, Duncan McNeil (who sent a menu card), Cyril Smith, Mike Skelly and Charles Barton, where directed photographs will be returned to the owners in due course. We discover many cases where a lot of our members are in fact looking after each other as anno domini takes its hold. Sad and yet at the same time reassuring. For instance J. C. (Ras) Thompson of 42 Parade Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 4HB lives very close to Tom Lamphier who lives in No. 33 of the same road. We owe a great debt to 'Ras' for keeping a close eye on his old comrade who is a registered blind person and has just lost his dear wife. There is not much that can be said or written in such circumstances except to formally state that all old comrades will wish and hope that Tom's circumstances are such that he knows we all have deep felt sorrow and indeed worry for him and many of us wonder how we would fare ourselves under such circumstances. George Lancaster of No. 1, Oaklands, Mersham, Nr. Ashford, Kent TN25 6NE reveals another instance of this kind. He lives close to Charlie Heathfield of 48 Alfred Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 0PH and the two of them have been supporting each other. When one is ill the other visits hospital and reports to us until such time as the position is reversed. In army parlance they are "Good Mates" and it all reflects the very highest traditions of this association. There are lots more cases of this kind although many of those engaged in this 'neighbours watch' activity are too modest to have their names revealed. We repeat, we owe them a great debt. Nothing is more sad than to discover a P.P. who lay ill, or even died in a state of complete and utter loneliness.

Hugh (Scottie) Johnston-Scott, Apartado 25, Alhaurin el Grande, Malaga, Spain has suffered a short spell in hospital and describes his experiences in a Spanish hospital which turned out to be quite pleasant, if that is the right word. We are very glad he is better and returned to his wife, Denise. This brings us to his friend, and ours, 'Abdullah Saleem abu Shaikheh who writes from Qatar. This former Palestinian Inspector must surely be the longest serving police officer in history and at time of writing he is still a Superintendent in the Qatar police. But he is retiring at the end of June 1984 and we congratulate him on a long and honourable career on the one hand and for a happy retirement on the other. Another overseas member to write is David Hey of 24 Jalan Wisata, Johor Bahru, Johore, West Malaysia. His letter is dated 25th October last but the newsletter copy did not arrive until a month afterwards. He was then about to visit Perth, West Australia and sought the addresses of our members in that area. He knows of Charles Hart, ex P.P. in Kuantan, although we have his address as Triang Estate, Triang P.O. Pahang, West Malaysia. The only two left from the 400 or so who once tramped and fought in days of yore. Malaysia was in fact the largest branch

of this association at one time. How times have changed. But we hope David enjoyed his holiday.

A total of eight rejoined members and one retraced Life Member are in from the cold, together with a further five new members, so that in spite of so many of our chaps falling off the twig and dying, the overall numbers are still being miraculously maintained by recruitment. We really do not know how we manage to keep doing this sort of thing. One such newly rejoined is Walter Golby of 140 Minerva Way, Cambridge who has been in touch since with the General Secretary. We have also heard from Jack Bertauche, 4 Chalet Road, Ferring, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 5NY who was a bit surprised to find his name mentioned in the September issue and wrote a suitable appreciative letter. Brigadier C. J. Wilkinson, Heath Farm, North Walsham, Norfolk NR28 0LU — a former D.S.P. of ours — also wrote about this and that in an altogether most interesting letter. So did Reg Millard, The White Hart Inn, Bridstowe, Devon. Among the 'also hears' is Jacques Dudley-Nigg, of Pine House, Westleton, Saxmundham, Suffolk IP17 3AW who seems to be well.

Albert Parent of various addresses of which 23 Station Road, Chessington, Surrey seems to be the most consistent, although the newsletter is sent somewhere else by request; but if we can now take breath — Albert Parent had a visitor, one William Cameron who can usually be found at Balfour Beatty Ltd., (Tanzania Project), Randolph House, Croydon, Surrey. Bill Cameron was formerly a force armourer at Headquarters and after the Stand Down he returned to his native Scotland but then went to Dubai followed by employment in Nigeria in the world of civil engineering. He now works in Tanzania for the aforementioned company. He left enough subs' to last him at least three years and we now hope that he will keep in touch with all his former friends by way of this newsletter.

Micky Hills was allowed out of the country on parole at the tail end of last year and by all accounts spent a pleasant and restful holiday in Malta. It goes without saying that he could not resist looking up some P.P. in the area. He met A. F. (Terry) Burke, MBE., about whom he describes as a 'lovely chap' and is full of boundless energy and fine health. He and his wife, Ann, have a flat in Malta which turned out to be just 300 yards from the place where Micky was actually staying. Terry is in touch with a lady archaeologist named Olga Tuffnel who also lives in Malta. The lady was present when her former chief J. L. Starkey, a distinguished archaeologist in Palestine, was murdered by a band of armed Arabs on the Hebron — Tel Duweir track on 10th January 1938. Tel Duweir is the biblical Lachish a place where Starkey was leading an important 'dig' at the time. On 23rd of the same month two Arabs were arrested for the crime and

were duly hanged after proper trial. So this lady is not only used to Palestine policemen but is familiar with the parry and thrust of Palestine politics. We wish her all good wishes. But the intrepid Micky then turned mariner bold and took the ferry across to Gozo where he met George Benbow, BEM., who was at the last Annual Reunion Dinner, let it be said. He and his wife, Pearl, gave lunch. It must have been nice and we wish we had been a fly on the wall. Micky then returned to a cold flat in London and an empty 'fridge'. We know the feeling. Its called anti climax.

We owe letters, or it is suspected that we owe letters, to: Peter Lee who asked us to trace someone and this we have not yet done, Tom Foley, who sent us an interesting cutting, Buck Adams who let us have one of his interesting letters, Joe Adolph who has sent two lots of documentary memorabilia, not yet acknowledged. Mrs. Ursula Rooney who sought an address and we realise with horror that we have not yet replied. But all will be attended to. There are two pension problems being investigated as well, one of which is a bit of a brute. Have faith dear children. Dealing for a moment with the letter from Buck Adams, Wheelgates, Swanton Abbot, Norwich, Norfolk NR10 5AH, he enclosed a cutting from his local newspaper, the Eastern Daily Press, dated 11th January 1984 wherein there is an article entitled the 'Fireball Death Heroes', from which we deduce that a Norwich pensioner died by way of a fire at his home at 3 Victoria Street, Norwich. The article contained much about the deads of heroism by neighbours who tried to rescue the victim but without success. One such neighbour, was Albert Brighton, now aged 83, who was able to say that he and another man got into the old Georgian house but were driven back to the street by what has been described as a fireball. He was badly singed for his efforts. Albert Brighton, dear readers is a former Palestine Policeman, known in Palestine as Bill Brighton and formerly of the Royal Norfolk Regiment. He joined the force according to Buck Adams, who gives us some useful material on the gentleman, in or about 1929; and they served together in Affuleh in 1931/32. He is believed to have left the force in or about 1934. The two did not see each other again until quite recently at one of the Oaklands Hotel 'frolics'. Buck recalls that Bill's hobby was classical music and in Affuleh he had a lot of decent records which he played as often as he could. So now in the best traditions of the old force, this warrior was yet again prepared to risk his life to try and save someone else. Well done Bill, we are proud of you. He lives at 4 Victoria Street, Norwich, Norfolk NOR 37D.

While in East Anglia, Ras Thompson, 42 Parade Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 4HB has also sent us a newspaper cutting, this time from East Anglian Daily Times for 24th December 1983. Briefly it contains an article dealing with a historical and archaeological gem of a cloister unearthed at Clare Priory in Suffolk which might date from the 13th century. Underneath layers of

Victorian paint and plaster together with false ceilings, there exists the ancient timbers of the original priory building. This rustic development would not normally be considered of great newsletter event in Palestine Police circles except for the fact that the work of restoration is being done, at manual level by a team of community workers which is led by David Bagshaw lately of CID Headquarters in Jerusalem and a former chairman of London Branch. All we can say here is that we wish him well and hope that his team of community workers find it all as entrancing as the history experts descending upon the place in what can only be described as an excited state. Thank you Ras Thompson for the information.

We have heard from Ian Proud CBE of 33 Chipstead Park, Sevenoaks, Kent TN13 2SL who also sent us a useful newspaper cutting. He also mentioned in reference to the obituary notice for the late Arthur Dearsley CPM, shown on page 63 in the last issue that he did not serve in the army, as our records suggested, but in the Royal Marines and his ribbons started with the Navy General Services medal (Palestine) as issued for 1936-39 and included the Atlantic Star. Something we all would wish to get right and we are grateful for this additional and in the circumstances important information. Then there is A. J. Briggs, whose workday address should read F.C.O. Ankara Bag, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AB, but who can reasonably be expected to answer the door sometimes at 15 Quayside, Admirals Quay, Bridgewater, Somerset TA6 5AZ. He is retiring shortly and gives June 1985 as a working date for this change of status to come about. He seems to be a yachting enthusiast and his new address does tend to suggest something nautical. A marine development is coming along nicely in Bridgewater and he suggests that any visiting yachtsman will be welcome there as soon as it is opened. He also hopes to pop into Cardinal sometimes. We hope he does.

Mrs. Dorothy Foster seems to be deeply involved these days with A.T.S. Old Comrades. She was once a keen and useful member of that unit in Jerusalem. At anyrate Dorothy attended the A.T.S. Plot in the Memorial Garden in November last, while her husband John, was busy at our own plot. It seems that Dorothy is in touch with an Ava Ellison, a former member of the A.T.S. who remembers how good the Palestine Police contingent were to her on board a troop transport bound for the Middle East many years ago. As a matter of fact Eva was very ill during the voyage and three friendly and solicitous members of the force who were returning from U.K. leave, signed her diary as a memento of their acquaintance. They were B/Sergeant D. M. McKechnie then heading for Rawdat Billett in the Old City of Jerusalem; B/Constable 1789 Patrick McNamara, then of Port and Marine and a J. A. Edwards of the Prison Section in Jerusalem. Both McKechnie and McNamara are lapses, the former was last heard at 14 Lumsdon

Street, St. Overnewton, Glasgow and the latter at 333 St. John Street, Sudbury, Ontario, Canada. Where are they now? Meanwhile Dorothy Foster was also present at the National Cenotaph ceremony in November and marched past the Cenotaph. Many readers may have spotted Bob Pringle in the St. Dunstan's contingent as they also proudly marched past. But Dorothy is a busy lady and if ever she should inveigle Eva Ellison to attend one of our functions she may discover how nice we still are.

Another batch of "We have heard from's" must include: Mrs. Ena Bacon (one of the daughters of the late Alan Sigrist) whose other sister has heard from K. M. (Ken) Maxwell, J.P., 3 Fairfield Gardens, Brook Lane, Alderley Edge, Cheshire. Our 'G.S.' had a letter from G. W. Paine, (ex 2292) of 44 Belmore Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 8BL (A town chosen by God above all others as far as the editor is concerned). Ray Atkinson, 51 Observatory View, Hailsham, East Sussex BN27 2HQ and Gerald (Dodger) Green, Margerstan House, Northleach, Gloucestershire GL54 3PG.

One of these merit something more than a mere mention in dispatches. We turn first to Ray Atkinson about whom readers ought to know that he never complains and seems to ask for little in life which he takes in its stride on a "Count your blessings" basis. But for a long time he has been confined to a wheelchair. In his letter he explains how he came to join the association, which until 1978 he did not know existed. His wife who is a social worker was presented with a Rosemary plant by a Mrs. Dilby? who stated she had brought it home from Palestine. Conversation revealed that the lady's husband had been a British Inspector at Acre Prison. The plant is doing well in the Atkinson front garden and as a spin off bonus Ray joined the association. He served in the P.M.F. (No. 2 Company) at Jenin, Ramallah and Mount Scopus until disbanded under D.S.P.F. Bonning (deceased). He trained with George Benbow (now Malta). His letter is a most cheerful thing to read in spite of two leg emputations (diabetes 1975) and the loss of sight in one eye (glaucoma) and lasser treatment in the other eye. Whenever he does get out he insists on wearing some article of P.P. identification. We pray that this stoic old comrade about to move into an electric operated wheelchair will continue to enjoy the newsletter for many years to come.

It was sad enough to have to record the death of Eddie Mackie in the September issue last year, but we received a delightful letter from his son Keith, who lives at 511 Sauk Path Drive, Oak Brook, Illinois 60521, U.S.A. We quote a part "My father had very deep feelings for those in the Palestine Police and considered it the key to his later success in life. The training, discipline and friendship gained in the force was the basis for later accomplishments". Mr. Mackie (Jnr) was kind enough to enclose a generous cheque which

has been placed in the Benevolent Association and we can but say how grateful we are for this fine gesture in memory of his father who was in turn held in high esteem by those of us who served alongside him in Palestine.

We have all noted that L. T. Wilkinson moved to Whyalla Playford, South Australia 5600 in the last newsletter, where he lives at 3 Ferry Street, having transported himself all the way from London for the purpose. Have readers noticed, and what is more important has the new resident noticed? That in 58 Peters Street, Whyalla Playford, a P.P. representation is already there in the form of A. H. Milham. It is fun to speculate the reaction from these two when two wearers of THE TIE come face to face in the local store. It could cause an incident.

By the way of some sort of determination to conclude these notes, we have saved until nearly last a long letter from Philip Moore, 117 Moseley Wood Gardens, Leeds LS16 7JD who has sent some copies of former CID Bulletins of 1946 and 1947 vintage which have proved of archival interest. Readers will recall he lent us the delightful cartoon that appeared on page 51 of the last issue. Philip enjoyed marching in the column to the cenotaph and his wife who took photographs of the scene, thought everyone looked ten feet tall.

We are indebted to Bob Rowberry of 28 Britannia Square, Worcester WR1 3DH who has sent us about a dozen stories for future newsletter and we include one with this issue. We have had yarns from Bob's pen in the past and enjoyed them. He is what an old schoolmaster known to this ancient editor would call "A useful fellow". Also in this issue is a literary contribution from W. Siffleet, 12 Bickersteth Road, Tooting, London SW17 9SF. Another "Useful fellow". He is of the opinion that Onbashi ought to be promoted by now to Shawish. Quite a thought!

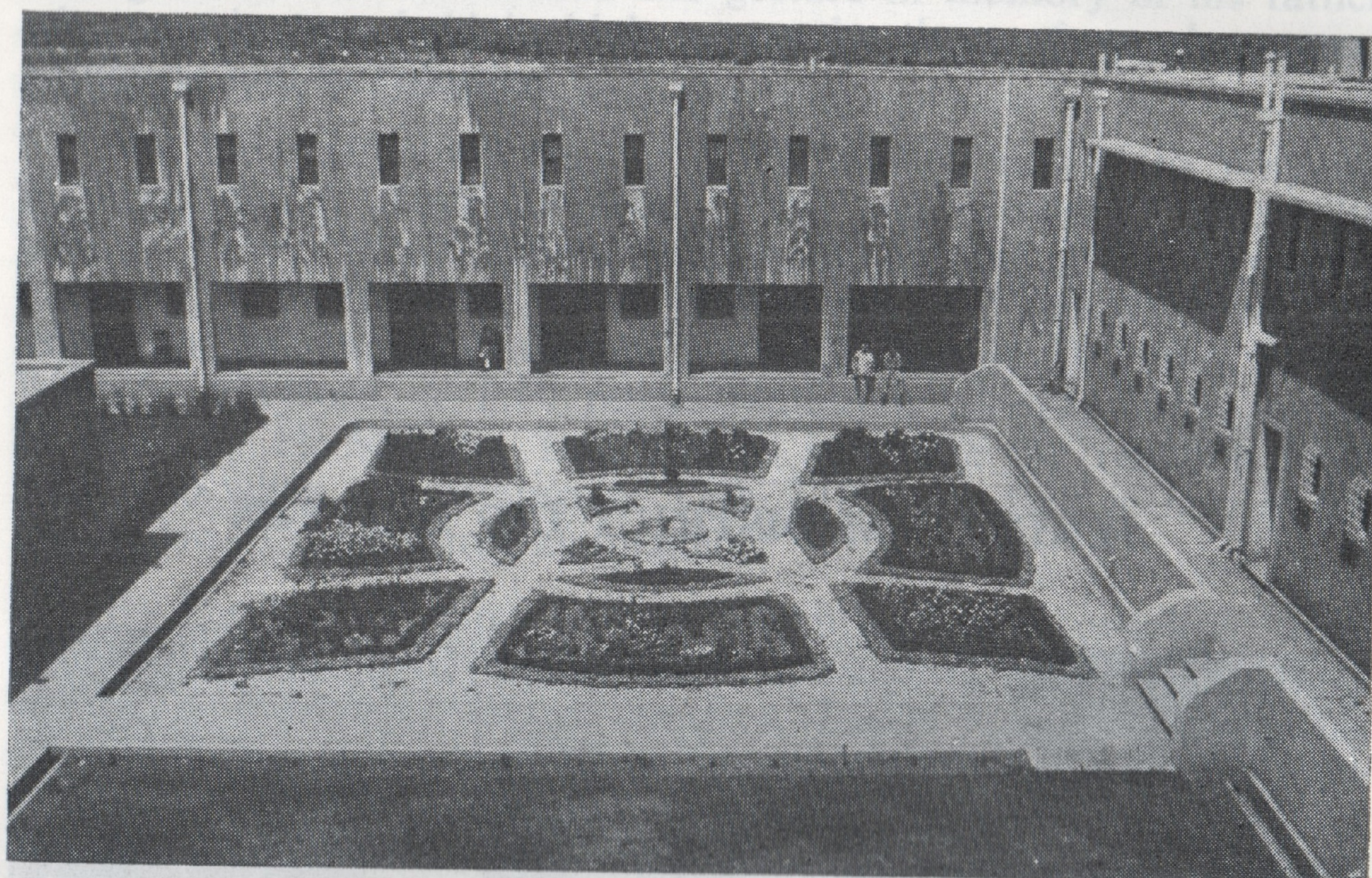
JERUSALEM DISTRICT CID DRIVERS



L. to R. B/Const. 1049 B. S. A. Butler, B/Const. 4326 R. Burns and B/Const. 4346 ? McVeigh. Year believed to be 1947'ish.

Photograph from Bill Ridgard.

AERIAL VIEW No. 1



Tiberias Tegart, 1943. Photograph from Jim Smith

AERIAL VIEW No. 2



Nablus Fort: Built as Turkish Gendarmerie Post with stone from the walls of Nablus. Later British army barracks, British Gendarmerie quarters, Police barracks and a prison. Its final use is not known.

1939 — DEPOT PROMOTION COURSE — SUMMER



L. to R. Pratt, King, Dave Penwright, Hepburn and Alan Kirkham.
Photograph from Alan Kirkham

AFFULEH — WINTER



L. to R. 'Spider' Williams, Sam Culverhouse, Hindley, Jackie Edwards and 'Tiger' Martin.
Photograph from Alan Kirkham

LONDON BRANCH

The branch meets on the first Saturday of every month at The Cardinal, "Headquarters", Francis Street, London, S.W.1, at 8.00 p.m. The presence of the ladies is positively encouraged.

Chairman: L. Sexton, 1a Wellington Court, Wellington Road, St. John's Wood, London NW8 9TA. Tel: 01-722 6977.

Vice-Chairman: G. Andrews, 195 Rivermead Court, Ranelagh Gardens, Fulham, London SW6 3SG. Tel: 01-731 6208.

Secretary: W. Anderson, 19 Priestley Road, Mitchem, Surrey CR4 2LL. Tel: 01-648 8324.

Treasurer: T. Freeburn, 24 Dale View Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6PL. Tel: 01-524 2081.

Committee: A. Burn, R. Hamilton, T. Isted, E. Jackson, P. O'Boyle T. Shand, R. Stanners and G. Stewart.

The branch A.G.M. took place on 5th November 1983 at the Cardinal with Len Sexton in the chair. It was decided that we had had a very successful year and our funds are in a healthy state. The branch is sorry to lose the services of T. H. (Terry) Shand as our chairman for some years now, particularly as he has supplied a lot of energy and leadership to the post, but as he is now Association Chairman too, he feels he must relinquish the reins within the branch and so did not put his name forward to stand again. Our Vice-Chairman Len Sexton is thus promoted to the top job and his place in turn taken by George Andrews from the ranks of the committee. Other officers remain. So we have a strong team.

Attendances at the Cardinal nights have at least been consistent. Apart from most of the branch committee who turned up at the December meeting, we welcomed Harry and Rosa Cassels, Bob Ellis, Charles and Gwen Gammon, Ted Heading and Bella Todman from this branch as well as Cabby Walter, Ted Night, George and Jim Meekins, Bill and Gillian Moorehead and Bob Pemble from South-Eastern Counties Branch. We had a jolly evening although a sad note was struck when we learned that Audrey Stanners was unwell. In January the following were much in evidence:- Association Chairman, Terry Shand, Sid Johnson, Micky Hills, Len and Mary Sexton, George and Edna Andrews, Tom Freeburn, Bill and Eunice Anderson, Ted and Phyllis Jackson, Bob and Audrey Stanners, George and Joyce Stewart, Harry Cassels, Bob Ellis, Mrs. Haubner, Ted Heading, Bill Shearman,

Bob and May Turner, Geoff and Phyl Tymms. Added to this came a strong detachment from South-Eastern Counties in the shape and form of Cabby and Ida Walter, John and Heather McVitty with guests, George and Jim Meekins (Jim just out of hospital after major eye surgery), Bert Parent and Ron Pemble. Altogether a nice and noisy lot. Derrick Moore, formerly Port & Marine 1946-1948 and former Haifa District Rugby player made his first appearance and another P & M man, Paddy O'Hanlon was there too and naturally he took away an enrolment form.

This newsletter ought to arrive in time to give a final reminder to those Londoners who do not usually rush to do things; that 10th March is set for the branch Buffet/Dance at The Conference Centre, Westminster Cathedral and if they notice the advertisement placed close to this report they can reach out to telephone me to say they are coming. London Branch has never had a dull or unsuccessful function at these particular premises so please give us your support.

W.A.

London Branch

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Conference Centre, Westminster

Adjacent Westminster Cathedral

SATURDAY, 10th MARCH, 1984

7.00 p.m.

Dress informal

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W. Anderson

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Mitcham, Surrey CR4 2LL

Telephone 01-648 8324

HERTFORDSHIRE BRANCH

Chairman: J. Druce, 31 Parsonage Road, Welham Green, Hatfield Hertfordshire AL9 7NA. Tel: Hatfield 63857.

Secretary: F. A. Randall, 21 Elm Gardens, Welwyn Garden City,, Hertfordshire AL8 6RX. Tel: Welwyn Garden 21209.

Treasurer: W. I. Flynn, 590 Howlands, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 4ET. Tel. Welwyn Garden 31475.

Our news is garnished with sorrow and illness of one sort and another. Our sorrow is brought about by having to cancel our Buffet/Dance that was arranged for 5th November in Watford. The main reason was because other P.P. events were taking place and members of the association in this area cannot be in two places at once. So its back to the 'Think Tank' as they say. However we owe Arthur Whiting special thanks, which must include his wife, for all the efforts they made to try and get the affair properly organised. Let us hope better luck next time.

But we are plagued with ill health too and regret the indispositions of Bill Flynn our branch treasurer, Eddy Pitman and Wally Stratton who are all far from well. We wish them and all members every good wish for 1984. (See Sick Parade — Ed.)

F.A.R.

SOUTH-EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH

Chairman: W. H. (Bill) Church, 1 Wimbourne Avenue, Redhill, Surrey RH1 5AQ. Tel: Redhill 65488.

Vice-Chairman: Maurice H. Hill, 24 Fourth Avenue, West Sussex BN14 9NY. Tel: Worthing 32665.

Secretary: C. A. B. (Cabby) Walter, 56 Village Way, Beckenham, Kent BR3 3NP. Tel: 01-658 1059.

Treasurer: Maurice B. Clarke, 15 Turners Mill Road, Haywards Heath, West Sussex RH16 1NW. Tel: Haywards Heath 454969.

Although Christmas is a long way behind us now, I must say thank you on behalf of the branch to all those who sent Christmas

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to defray the heavy cost of publication.

Greetings. They came from far and near, including Eadon-Clarke in Perth, Australia. The branch A.G.M. will take place on 13th May 1984 at the George Hotel, High Street, Rye, Sussex, assemble at 11.00 a.m. for 11.30 a.m. start. There will be a welcome cup of coffee to start with and a sit-down luncheon has been arranged for 1.00 p.m. at a cost of £6 per head. This is a social occasion and all are welcome. Rye is a quaint and historic walled town and is well worth a visit. Please through me. The hotel by the way will welcome enquiries to stay the week end and such should be made direct. Telephone number of the hotel is: Roy (0797) 222114.

C.A.B.W.

SOUTHERN AND WESTERN COUNTIES BRANCH

Chairman: R. G. Sandy, 13 Milford Avenue, Wick, Bristol, Avon BS15 5PG.

Vice-Chairman: J. Bamford, Blagdon Manor Hotel, Totnes Road, Paignton, South Devon TQ4 7PY. Tel: 0803 521220.

Secretary/Treasurer: T. F. Urwin, Wood Close, Lower Collipriest Farm, Tiverton, Devon EX16 4PT. Tel: Tiverton 254166.

Committee: A. J. Burrows, C. W. J. Greenstreet, E. Du Val, B. P. Henwood, J. A. Jenson, F. M. Kelly, Mrs. I. Mann, G. N. Simpson and C. A. Wade.

This quarter our branch report is one of sorrow as well as joy. The sorrow stems from the deaths of Bill Simmons and former branch chairman, Cecil Kennedy. (See Obituary Notices — Ed). They were both hard working members of our committee and each made a big contribution to the well being and smooth running of this branch. There is also the death of Bunny Warren who was one of our members and who will be very much missed by us all. The joy came at our Annual Dinner/Dance which seems to go from strength to strength and 117 sat down to dine. It was our 21st birthday and we were pleased that the Association President was able to be with us to celebrate. After the Loyal Toast from the Branch Chairman, Reg Sandy, some excellent speeches followed. Jim Bamford gave us The Toast to Absent Friends, while Colin Wade sparkled as he gave the Toast to our Guests and Ladies. Mrs. Isobel Hoy discovered that she had 'volunteered' to respond and proceeded to do so in great style and most effectively. The

Toast to the Association was given by Maurice Callard who was able to produce a poem on the subject which went very well and finally our President, Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones gave us a wonderful address in the course of which he quoted several examples of the force's resourcefulness and efficiency and finished by saying that undoubtedly "We were the best".

Terry Shand then led us in singing The Holy City accompanied on the piano by Colin Petheram, an ex bandmaster of the 17th/21st Lancers. The attendance was considerable and we were able to welcome Terry Shand, if I can mention him again, who is the Association Chairman, Dr. Jack Thompson, Mrs. Marion Thompson and Mrs. Robertson who are both donor members and former Nursing Sisters in Palestine. Tom Freeburn, Tom Walker, George Stewart all of Central Council, Geoff Tymms of London Branch. Harry and the above had their ladies with them. Then there was Alf and Day Burn, Harry and Marjorie Jervis, Lew and Pam Boffin and Tom Harbison. Jimmy and Hannah Weekes, Gordon and Mrs. Cutbush (shades of Eastern Police Station, Haifa), David and Marjorie Niven, Albert and Poppy Blash, Alf and Mrs. Hawkrige, Paddy and Jennie Duke as well as the Langleys. We especially welcomed Mrs. Eileen Brown, formerly Mrs. Eileen Broadhead who brought her husband along and both expressed their pleasure at attending to the point that Mr. Brown stated he wished he had been a P.P. Mr. and Mrs. Denton and Fred Barty also attended as did Taffy Edwards, Les Chapman and Don Howell. On top of all this were numerous members of our own branch. Mrs. Henwood presented us with a beautiful iced cake on which were reminders of the main training centres of the P.P. viz. Mount Scopus, Jenin, Beisan etc. and in due time this was cut by our Association President. Finally on this subject the branch has to thank all those who helped to make it all work. Members of the committee and Alex and Betty Gourlay who once again assisted with the Christmas Draw and the table arrangements. The draw as a matter of fact was very successful, though a lot of tickets were not returned and in future years, quite naturally I want them all back. Sold or not.

Our next social function will also take place at The Courtlands Hotel, Boscombe, Bournemouth on 17th March 1984. We meet at 11.30 a.m. and have a luncheon laid on for 1.00 p.m. at an approximate cost of £5, followed by a committee meeting at 2.30 p.m. If this newsletter gets to you on time, being our vehicle of information, then please notify me by 12th March the moment you spy these lines and decide to come to the lunch. We have already heard that our Chairman Emeritus of the Association cum Newsletter Editor, Ted Horne, who lives on our 'patch' will be attending the Midlands Branch function at Kennilworth that week-end and thus unable to be with us. The branch A.G.M. will take place on 20th May 1984 at The County Hotel, Taunton, Somerset and the

committee is turning over ideas to make this event into something other than just an A.G.M. Members will be notified in due course. Anyone interested please notify me in advance with suggested numbers who may attend. We hope to hold costs down to about £6 per head with the hotel offering good accommodation overnight at reasonable rates for those wishing to make a long week-end out of it.

T.F.U.

We were never alone.

Together we watched the moon come up and silver over Galilee;

Together rode the dusty plain from Jaffa to the hills;

And walked together in the street that leads to Calvary;

And we were never alone.

Friends we have left there, asleep on Zion's hill.

And they are not alone; we're with them still.

We gave our service, gave our strength, our youthful years.

In their mad sport we found bright laughter, brittle years;

But there we learned what manhood was

And how each man is each man's brother,

And friendship was a Faith which held us then

And holds us even now like a thread unbreakable

Which stretches from Naqura to Beersheba,

From Metulla down to El Arish

And back, into the minds, the memories, the hearts

Of men who'll never be alone.

MAURICE CALLARD

SOUTH WALES BRANCH

Chairman: N. Swain, 6 Park Court Road, Bridgend, Glamorgan-shire CR13 4BP.

Secretary/Treasurer: D. Howell, 11 Turnstone Road, Rest-Bay, Porthcawl, Mid-Glamorgan CR36 3RD. Tel: Porthcawl 4992.

As we were about to go to press and had already typed an entry against South Wales Branch which read at the time. "The silence is deafening". But then a letter arrived from this 'Third World' territory which bore something of a branch report. As a matter of fact it was a very nice letter and Don Howell is one of my favourite correspondents in the letter field, so now I am ashamed and withdraw all wicked thoughts about non communicative secretaries.

EDITOR

Three of us, namely Cliff Edwards, Les Chapman and "yer 'umble servant" managed to reach the bright lights of Bournemouth to sample the wicked night life presented by the annual Dinner/Dance of the Southern & Western Counties Branch. The Courtlands Hotel was as usual, first-class while the dinner compared very favourably with the Annual (Association) Dinner and that, as readers are fully aware, is praise indeed. It was a wonderful week-end and I was delighted to see 'Rymer' in attendance and looking remarkable as usual. It was also nice to see Bob Johnston from the Isle of Wight looking so well. Then there was Vera with her exiled Welsh husband Wally Sendell both looking 'eternal' and I was also delighted to see Nina and Jim Tait once again. Both looked wonderful and I hope Nina is fully recovered from her hospital experiences last year. In the last issue, there was an appeal in the Tracer Column for A. L. Chedzoy. We have now got his new address which has been sent on to the General Secretary and will doubtless appear in a future Changes of Address column. For those who require it in the interim it is: 16 Caewal Road, Llandaff, Cardiff, South Glamorgan.

D.H.

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James and Betty BAMFORD were delighted to receive
numerous visits from members and have enjoyed the company
of those who have taken leave of absence from their holidays
to call upon them from time to time throughout the year.

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SOUTH MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: J. H. Foster, ARICS., 101 Howberry Road, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 4SD. Tel: 01-954 6904.

Secretary: Lew H. Boffin, 13 Highworth Road, Faringdon, Oxfordshire SN7 7EG. Tel: Faringdon 20225.

The Branch Dinner/Dance that took place on 29th October 1983 the 27th in succession which is something to be proud of. The venue was Blunsdon House Hotel which we 'acquired' for the week-end and something to the order of 175 members and ladies and friends sat down. Grace was given by John Thomas (Merseyside Branch) then in the due process of time the Loyal Toast came from Ron Platt. There were some words of welcome from our Branch Chairman, John Foster and a Toast to Absent Friends by Roy Rodrick. The important Toast to the Association was well given and well received by Allan Lodge, finally some words of wisdom, shown on the toast list as President's Address was given by the Association President, Brigadier J. M. Rymer Jones. After the speeches came the action and Terry Shand led us through the hymnal refrain of Jerusalem as well as the association anthem The Holy City. This was an unusual departure and largely brought about because it has been said that in former days Jerusalem was an alternative to be considered as our adopted anthem. Anyway this time we got both. Apart from thanks which are due to our raffle ticket sellers (Jack Messenger and Bill Gibbons) we must also thank Gerald Green for donating a book written by the late Father Eugene Hoad which was put up for auction. Dancing followed until 1.00 a.m.

We were shocked to hear that during the night Mrs. Betty Sandy, wife of Reg Sandy the Chairman of Southern & Western Counties Branch, had been taken ill in the small hours and was by then in hospital in Swindon where she was seriously ill. This news brought a damper to the proceedings but we are now assured she is making good progress (as at 3rd January 1984). We had a mini-function at Blunsdon House over the New Year celebrations which turned out to be a terrific night. A large number of 'the gang' arrived and Micky Hills came down from London. In fact our branch Chairman sums it up when he stated "Thank all the 35 friends who joined us at Blunsdon House and made the New Year Week-End so magnificent. Not forgetting to thank Peter Clifford, Zan, Mike Liddamore and all their staff for a really super home from home function". That just about sums it all up. I must not forget meanwhile to mention a surprise visit from Tom Richards and his wife Sylvia from Canada, a most pleasant interlude.

L.H.B.

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(H. R. Noakes)

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Midlands Branch

ANNUAL DINNER / DANCE

KENNILWORTH MOAT HOTEL

Nr. Kennilworth, Warwickshire

Saturday, 17th March, 1984

at 7.00 p.m.

Dress informal

Tickets £8.50

Book early through Les Faulkes, Secretary

35 Home Farm Crescent,

Whitnash, Leamington Spa

Warwickshire CU31 2QW.

Tel: 0962 32814

Bed and breakfast £9 per head

Direct to hotel. Tel. Kennilworth 58331

MIDLANDS BRANCH

Meets at the Birmingham United Services Club, 287 Broad Street, Birmingham on the third Saturday of each month at 8.30 p.m.

Chairman: Fred J. Gardiner, 14 Brampton Avenue, Hall Green, Birmingham, West Midlands, B28 9LG. Tel: 021-744 2640.

Vice-Chairman: E. (Ted) Butler, 2 Morgan Road, Frazley Road, Tamworth, Staffordshire B78 3LA. Tel: (0827) 56382.

Secretary: Les G. Faulkes, 35 Home Farm Crescent, Whitnash, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire CV31 2QW. Tel: (0926) 32814.

Treasurer: Alf Burton, 8 Willow Street, Desford, Leicestershire LE9 9HB. Tel: (04557) 2494.

By the time that readers see this page, we shall be about to enjoy our annual branch Dinner/Dance on 17th March which will be fully reported in the next issue. If the newsletter arrives in time and anyone wishes to join us at our new venue at the Kennilworth Moat Hotel, then contact me at once at the address and telephone number shown above and I shall see if we can squeeze you in. See separate advertisement. We are sure it will all be as successful as previous years but with better dining and dancing facilities.

L.G.F.

EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH

Chairman: H. G. Elvin, High View, 80 Violet Road, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 3QO. Tel: (0602) 871289.

Vice-Chairman: T. G. McNeill, KPM., 67 North Road, West Bidgeford, Nottinghamshire. Tel: (0602) 813736.

Secretary: H. G. Coaten, 6 Newton Avenue, Bingham, Nottinghamshire BG13 8FU. Tel: (0949) 37907.

Treasurer: A. Anderson, Tai O, Lanark Close, Wollaton Park, Nottingham. Tel: (0602) 781908.

Committee: J Chettle, W. Hargreaves, P. Mathews and L. Rhodes.

We held a meeting at Bingham on 28th November 1983 and a good attendance was recorded and happily the ladies were with us too. A new member attended in the name of Roy Ramsdale, (B/Const 3645) who was at Ramellah 1946-48 and we hope he enjoyed our company. (I hope he was signed up — Ed). We have decided that all our meetings should take place at 12.00 noon on Sundays at three monthly intervals so that the next one will take place on 28th February 1984 and another before our Buffet/Dance on 19th April. The Buffet/Dance being on 19th May. We look forward to a good attendance at the Buffet/Dance and urge readers to study the separate advertisement very closely. This is a young branch and everything depends upon your support. See you there!

H.G.C.

East Midlands Branch

BUFFET / DANCE

ROBIN HOOD HOTEL

Lombard Street

Newark, Nottinghamshire NG24 1XB

Saturday, 5th May, 1984

Tickets £8.00

Dress informal

Book Buffet/Dance through Griff Coaten
address under branch news.

Hotel accommodation direct with hotel.

Bed/Breakfast £13.00 per head.

Tel: (0636) 703858

MERSEYSIDE AND DISTRICT BRANCH

Meets on the first Wednesday of each month at the Sergeants Mess, Liverpool Scottish Regiment, Score Lane, Liverpool 6.

Chairman: A. Hawley, 119 Birley Street, Newton-le-Willows, Merseyside WA12 9UN. Tel: 092-52 4315.

Vice-Chairman: Peter Hornby, 2a Windsor Villas, Garstang Road, Barton, Preston, Lancashire PR3 5AA. Tel: 0772 864590.

Secretary: A. R. Gregson, 12 Regent Avenue, Liverpool L14 6UL. Tel: 051-489 2068.

Treasurer: J. M. Thomas, 7 Rimmer Avenue, Liverpool L16 2NE.

On 3rd December 1983 the branch held its Christmas Draw in Old Colwyn, North Wales, and 55 members and their ladies attended a Dinner/Dance which was, once again, highly successful. As usual the proceeds were donated to the Salvation Army Home for Children and thanks are due to all those who purchased tickets and donated prizes. Arrangements are well advanced for the branch's 24th Annual Dinner/Dance which will take place on 19th May 1984 at the Centre Hotel, Liverpool. An International Garden Festival is taking place at Liverpool this year at roughly the same time, so that there is likely to be a shortage of hotel accommodation. Will all the wise 'regulars' bear this in mind and I urge them to book early through me.

A.R.G.

MERSEYSIDE BRANCH ANNUAL DINNER - DANCE

CENTRE HOTEL
Lord Nelson Street, Liverpool

—::—
Saturday, 19th May, 1984

—::—
Dress informal

Book early through: Alf Gregson, Secretary
12 Regent Avenue, Liverpool L14 6UL
Telephone: 051-489 2068

YORKSHIRE BRANCH

Chairman: H. J. Keeton, 3 Heather Close, Huntington, York, North Yorkshire YO3 9PB. Tel: York 769032.

Vice-Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer: R. Saxon, 46 St. Pauls Road, Kirkheaton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 0EX. Tel: Huddersfield 28247.

Social Secretary: D. Bland, 28 Southwood Drive, Thorne, Nr. Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN8 5QS. Tel: Thorne 813242.

Committee: J. Butler, E. Garbutt and W. Moss.

On Sunday 20th November, 44 members and ladies gathered at The Bay Horse in Tadcaster and we were pleased to welcome among them, Les and Olive Ward from Doncaster who had moved up from the south a few months previously. We held a 'minute silence' for three recently deceased members of this branch, namely Mrs. Lilliam Simmons and both Harry and Ann Barraclough. Apologies came from Jack and Olive Sowden and Frank and Irene Goldthorpe. We were also pleased to have Jack and Helen Chettle with us. Jack is now on the committee of the newly formed, or is it reformed, East Midlands Branch which includes the county of Nottinghamshire where he lives.

The Christmas luncheon took place on 4th December at Mansion House, Roundhay Park, Leeds and details will appear in the next issue. The Branch A.G.M. took place on 29th January 1984 at The Green Dragon, Emley Moor but again the details will not be available until the next issue. There will also be a branch meeting on 18th March at The Bay Horse, Tadcaster. Finally on the forthcoming events there is the Annual Dinner/Dance due to take place Saturday 14th April 1984 at The Middleton Suite, York Race Course, 6.30 p.m. for 7.00 p.m. Tickets as low as £8 per head. All bookings through Derrick Bland if you please, whose address is shown at the top of this report. He can also advise about hotels for those who require information on the subject.

We have heard or have been in touch with the following: Joe and Edith Ward. Joe appeared in the Sick Parade column in newsletter No. 132 and several members responded with get-well cards which he appreciates, although out of hospital he is still far from well at time of writing (November 1983). Albert and Nan Creed had a holiday in Scotland and Jim and Phyllis Taylor sent word from Yugoslavia. Finally George Washington wrote to say that his wife, Rene had another operation on 3rd November and we hope this was successful.

R.S.

Yorkshire Branch

DINNER-DANCE

YORK RACE COURSE RESTAURANT

Saturday, 14th April, 1984

6.30 p.m.

Tickets £8.00

Tickets from branch secretary

Telephone: Huddersfield 28247

Hotel bookings through branch chairman

Telephone: York 769032

Addresses of both branch officers at head of
branch notes in this issue.

SCOTTISH BRANCH

Chairman: C. Kennedy, South Don, St. Andrews, Fife KY16 9YE.
Tel: Balmullo 242.

Secretary/Treasurer: J. M. Lindsay, 2 Lomond Bank, Glenfarg,
Perthshire PH12 9PF. Tel: 05773 382.

Now that Christmas is over, the Chairman and Committee of this branch wish all members and their families a happy as well as prosperous New Year. Through these pages, Charles and Val Kennedy as well as Madge and myself would like to thank all those who sent us Christmas cards, many of which contained wishes that could rightly be channelled to the branch committee. Our own specially designed card from the Scottish Branch seems to have gone down well, particularly overseas. Our next function will take place at The Isle of Skye Hotel, Perth on Sunday 18th March 1984 from 12.00 noon to 5.00 p.m. and the short meeting due to take place after the function will be the branch A.G.M. Any items for the agenda should be sent to me as soon as possible. The luncheon

will be four courses and we sit down at 1.30 p.m. sharp. The cost is about £5 per person, but the branch committee feel able to subsidise the cost to some extent, so that meal will only cost members and their families, friends and guests £3.50 per person. How is that for New Year generosity? While you are reaching for your cheque books, kindly include £2 annual subscription for the branch membership fee, which is nothing to do with the association dues you send to London. If anyone is obliged to make a late withdrawal from the luncheon and is able to notify me first, then I can arrange a return of his meal cost.

Neil Kennedy — former B/Const 882 (1944-1947 vintage) is now living at 1 Sinclair Drive, Largs, Ayrshire, having recently returned from Spain. (Spanish address not to hand — Ed) where he was evidently a neighbour of R. W. (Ron) Binge in Alicante whom I remember was once on the W/T section in Palestine. While dealing with sunnier climes several branch members are off to seek it. Finlay and Sally MacLean as well as Norrie and Sophie Holmes all from Fife who are off to Spain, Michael and Myra Hook are going to Australia on a family visit and Tom Barclay is visiting Malta. We have been in touch with Alan Foster who lives in Sabah, Malaysia (formerly Borneo) who was home in Aberdeen in February for a quick visit, in the course of which we wonder whether he will call upon George and Jean Alexander in Forfar. Several members are on Sick Parade (see separate entries — Ed) but Jimmy Dods of 503 Strathmartine Road, Dundee, Angus DD3 9EP is still 'confined to barracks' and R. F. (Bob) Christie, MBE., O.St.J., is similarly confined and friends can trace him through his daughter Mrs. D. Simpson, 10 Riverside Gardens, Wormit, Fife DD6 8NQ. Our branch chairman, Charlie Kennedy managed to visit him and reports that he is in fine spirits. We owe Harry Anderson an apology because his name appeared in the Sick Parade columns of the last issue as suffering from an unnamed indisposition. I now discover that the indisposition was the theft of his motor car. Although greivous it is in some ways better news than the thought that Harry was ill.

The big Annual Dinner/Dance will take place on 25th August 1984 at The Station Hotel, Perth. The event has become something of a talking point so do not delay in booking through me. More of all this in the next issue.

J.M.L.

AUSTRALIA (New South Wales Branch)

Chairman: W. R. (Bill) Wiggins, 1 Munoorra Street, Seaforth 2092.

Vice-Chairman: Harry Steel, 14 Sefton Road, Thornleigh, Sydney 2120.

Secretary: F. L. Ormsby, Unit 23, 39 Woodstock Street, Bondi Junction, Sydney 2022.

Treasurer: E. L. Jeffrey, 6/16 Waratah Street, Rushcutters Bay, 2011.

We have just had our first day of official summer so we are hopeful that the weather will warm up a bit. I expect soon we will be complaining of the heat! I was sorry to see from the September issue that Alan Shead had died. He and I met at Sarafand Army Camp in early January 1945 while we awaited interview for admission from the army to the P.P. Col. Brighton carried out the interview and we were then whisked away a few days later to the PMF camp at Jenin. Later we shared a room together at Eldorado Billet on Mount Carmel. The branch August meeting took place on 26th of that month at the British Ex-Services Club and it proved to be up to its usual cheerful round of tales past and present. Those who attended were: Peter McGann, Ted Jeffery, Bill Anderson, George Limn who came all the way from Orange and myself. Then on 28th October some of us had a dinner at the same premises and this time, Bill and Winsome Wiggins, Joe Kramer joined the two Jefferys and the two Ormsbys. Afterwards we joined others at the branch AGM, where Harry and Betty Steel, Mike Cleasby, Jim Hagarty, Frances Meadows, Arch and Sue Leadbetter, Derry and Ann Atkinson, Bill Anderson, Fred Sylvester and George Limn were already assembled. At this meeting it was decided to donate the sum of £50 to the Benevolent Association in London and a cheque for that amount has been passed into the 'Treasury' through channels, as they say.

On 26th November our Christmas Dinner took place, again at the British Ex-Services Club, Dining Room. This time we were delighted to entertain Ken Maxwell on a visit from U.K. James and Mary Bidmead had come in from Terrigal and went back again that night. Eve Wright arrived from the Blue Mountains, and Derry and Ann Atkinson had come up from Huskisson which is on the south coast. Most of those who attended have been mentioned once or twice already in this report, but among those not so far mentioned are: Gerry and Peggy Sheppard, Fred and Beatrice Sylvester, Bob and Gwen Owen and George McIlwraith. Incidentally Fred Sylvester discovered that he had known Eve Wright's late husband

Don in Jerusalem, so they had a long chat. Mary Mackenzie passed this way and Bill Anderson joined Myra and I to make up a foursome for lunch with Mary on an all too short interlude.

The branch has recruited another member and can now introduce Nigel Hall, The Spot, Sierra Street, Yerrinbool, Nr. Mittagong, New South Wales 2575. Nigel was formerly British Sergeant 2827 in the force and is actually a lapsee, now returned to the fold. Dennis Prior of P.O.B. 608, Blantyre, Malawi, wrote and said that his son had contacted an old Haifa C.I.D. type, Paddy Moreland who has now retired from the Metropolitan Police and lives in North Devon. No address given (Detectives needed to trace — Ed). Finally I am back at work after my hernia operation.

F.L.O.

Jim Hagarty who can usually be found at 27 James Street, Seven Hills, Sydney 2147, New South Wales is still very much involved with the Guards Association of New South Wales, which he might well be as a former Coldstream Guardsman. He is Deputy President of that organisation and Guess What? Editor of the organisation newsletter, called The Guards News. It is a cheerful journal and is readily scanned in our own editor's office for snippets likely to be of interest to former P.P. with a Guards connection. It is worth pointing out that if any member of this association who is himself a former guardsman happens to be passing through Sydney, it might be a good idea to contact Jim Hagarty. We are sure he will be well received, to say nothing of a local guardsman's 'hangout' in the Old Windsor Tavern at 185 Castlereagh Street, Sydney. Somewhere near the Town Hall, where grills, roasts, fish and salads can be procured. The host is of course a guardsman, this time Irish Guards. Must be worth a visit.

EDITOR

OUR MAN IN BELMONT



Reg Priestly in his home in Belmont, Victoria, Australia.

Photograph from Reg Priestly

NEW ZEALAND BRANCH (Auckland)

Chairman/Secretary/Treasurer: Norman S. Stewart, 39 Walter Street, Takapuna, Auckland 9. Tel: 493 458.

On Saturday 2nd October 1983 I had a telephone call from Jim Taylor who lives 800 miles away to the south (address not to hand — Ed). Hanna and I, as well as Eric and Sylvia Smith were able to meet him for a short time and an application form to join was pressed into his hands. We hope he gets in touch. On 4th December the branch Curry Lunch took place at the home of Terry and Doris Cottam. The meal was prepared by Doris Cottam, Lola Brothers, Jean Harper and my wife Hanna and what a beautiful curry it was too. Those assembled included Frank and Lola Brothers, Jack and Connie Binsley, John and Robyn Binsley, John and Pat Miller, Dick and Joan Hill, Denys and Kay Wilcockson, Eric and Sylvia Smith, Gavin Hamilton, Terry and Doris Cottam (Our hosts for the day) and Paddy and Hanna Stewart (that's us). We had a number of apologies from Ken Pike, Don Miles, Pat Doel, Ray Brothers, Frank and Nina Mouque. Don Miles, Pat Doel and Ray Brothers were all engaged with work/duty/business etc. Frank and Nina Mouque were in the U.S.A. at the time and Ken Pike is claiming anno domini as a reason for absence, which is something we must all respect, particularly as he lives some distance away.

After the lunch we had a sing song which was led by Sylvia Smith on the piano which included The Holy City. The Cottams deserve our vote of thanks for such a wonderful gathering and we look forward to the April meeting of this branch. The Stewart household spent Christmas with our daughter in Melbourne and at time of departure I had it in my mind to contact Reg Priestly, Arthur New and Mary Gow, widow of the late Cameron Gow and who knows, I might even have been able to contact Wally Hand. Have to wait until the next issue to see how successful I was. (The final paragraph is restricted to expletives concerning the typewriter and is censored from the delicate eyes of our readers — Ed).

N.S.S.

A letter from Denis Wilcockson, Unit 2, 6 Tuhimata Street, St. Heliers, Auckland, New Zealand cannot go unmentioned and we quote quite liberally:- "The photo on the front of the June issue brought back a number of memories not all of them pleasant since I served three periods of service in Haifa. I was posted to

Haifa Central on leaving the Depot in late 1934 where I spent three years and was caught up with the riteous mob of about 3000 who stormed the station in 1936 when I was one of a baton party with pickhelves and shields who endeavoured to persuade them to depart. I still carry the scar of a great rock which bounced off the road into my shin. Before we became scuppered by the mob, gallant Nobby Clark knelt on the top step of the station and levelled his rifle and fired two shots killing one man who was shot through the head and wounding another who later died. The mob then scarpered and the lives of at least ten British Constables were saved. This particular Nobby was a great pal of Archie Pitt and when these two got together all sorts of remarkable happenings occurred. My second tour of duty in Haifa was later on and I was unfortunate enough to be upstairs at the Port and Marine billet which overlooked a central courtyard when a wireless van that looked just like one of ours was parked by two Jewish terrorists who were dressed as British policemen and shortly after they departed a bomb in the van blew up killing and wounding a number of people.

Shortly afterwards I was transferred to Ranana as an Inspector and stayed there until posted back to Haifa again, this time to Hadar Hacarmal police station where we enjoyed mortars and machine guns from Arabs and Jews every night. The lack of sleep was sheer hell, but shortly afterwards we were withdrawn to Mount Carmel where we slept for three days. In my final station we lost three British police. One stepped on a mine, one killed by a blast when a Post Office van blew up and the third stopped a bullet which was not intended for him. Yes that dammed photograph brought many memories.

EDITOR

CANADA

Our Treasurer, Sidney Johnson has heard from Jack Missen, 74 East Whitecroft, 52313 Range Road, 232 Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada T8B 1B7 and a copy was passed to the 'newsletter desk' as being of likely interest. It was indeed of interest and Jack writes nostalgically of his former days in Palestine (1935-1942 vintage, and Mounted Sergeant 243 at that). He served for much of his time with the late Jack Medlock first at Khirbet Beit Lid in 1937, then on Tess Col. B (under Sergeant Goulty until he got shot in an ambush in 1938 (6th August — Ed), then again with Jack Medlock in 1940-1941 with the original M.P.S.F. at Saffouriyeh). He actually states "My service with Jack Medlock was a highlight in a most interesting period". He goes on to hope that Jack's

widow, Shelley is fully recovered from her injuries, received in the same accident that caused the death of her husband. To which enquiry we have to respond with the information that we have no news whatsoever of Mrs. Medlock's state of recovery in distant Zimbabwe. But Jack's letter was pleasant to read and we refer readers to Sick Parade at this point which covers another aspect of Jack's more recent activities.

Sidney Johnson also received a letter from Chris Bacon, 864 Tanager Avenue, Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7T 2Y2. He enjoyed his visit to the UK recently and regrets that the clock cannot be switched back, but adds "Nevertheless belonging to the PPOCA and having served with the best types of manhood from all walks of life, I find it a privilege I would not like to have missed, apart from the very pleasant memories one is left with". Well there's another nice letter for you. While dealing with Canada, we have also heard from Jim Parker, c/o Outward Bag Room, FCO (Ottawa Bag) London, which to the rest of us, means Canada for the time being.

ISRAEL

Our old friend Simcha Fromer of 38 Kalisher Street, Tel Aviv 65165, Israel, has been in touch with our General Secretary and the editor wishes to thank him for his nice Christmas Card. His letter refers to his delight at being invited to attend the unveiling ceremony on 13th November 1983 at St. Andrew Scots Memorial Church in Jerusalem on the occasion of the dedication of a memorial to all those British Servicemen of Scottish blood who worshipped at the church and who fell in during the fighting or from illness during the British Mandate in Palestine and in the course of World War II. In the course of time a copy of the ceremony and the full text of the address given by The Rev. Dr. Robert Craig, CBE., Minister of the church was sent to us and it makes pretty good reading. In the course of the ceremony, the minister read a message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother which is reproduced in part here:

"Queen Elizabeth wishes me to tell you how pleased she is to learn of the memorial which is to be erected in St. Andrew's Church in memory of those in the Armed Forces and Palestine Police Force who worshipped at St. Andrew's and gave their lives in the Second World War and during the Mandate. The Queen Mother asks me to say that her thoughts will be very much with you when the memorial is unveiled and dedicated at the Remembrance Day Service on Sunday 13th November".

P.P.O.C.A. TRAVEL

JORDAN - ISRAEL

MAY 27th — JUNE 10th

THERE IS ROOM FOR 10 MORE MEMBERS

OR FRIENDS FOR THIS WONDERFUL

JOURNEY TO

AMMAN — AQABA — PETRA

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of the Holy Land**

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Terry Shand — 01-203 1057

or Write: 47 Southfields, Hendon, London NW4 4LX

It is nice to know that Simcha Fromer was there with Solo Epstein and J. Hirschfield to represent former Jewish members of the force and we thank him meanwhile for his letter. This brings us to a fine letter from Tom Harbison who, with Noel Davis were also in the congregation, representing the Association as a whole, as it turned out. Tom originally sent us a postcard to say that he and Noel would be there for the occasion and this was followed by his useful letter. He gives an account of a very moving ceremony which was very well attended and representatives included: Ahmad Tamimi, representing former Arab members of the force, Col. Peter Mitchell, the British Military Attache, various Air Attaches from British and from other Western Embassies, representatives of the Israeli Police and the Israel Armed Forces, representatives from the U.N. Peace Keeping Forces, representatives of Australian, New Zealand and Fiji Armed Forces and the British Consul General. The Last Post was sounded by Lance Corporal Mattison from the British Contingent in Sinai. Whether by design or by coincidence, Kevin Mattison proved to be the son of a former Palestine Policeman, namely J. R. Mattison of 82 Mellanby Crescent, Newton Aycliffe, Co. Durham and as far as this editor is able to discover is not a member of the association. The actual unveiling was performed by a Mrs. Arnold, widow of former B/Sergeant David Arnold who died in Palestine in 1948. Altogether a most fitting connection between the new and the old. Tom Harbison was assured by The Rev. Craig that he is very grateful for the generous donation of £50 by the Scottish Branch of this Association towards the cost of the memorial.

The words taken from the front of the address are reproduced in this issue.

EDITOR

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND

St. Andrew's Scots Memorial Church, Jerusalem

Sunday 13th November at 4 o'clock

Service of Dedication

OF A MEMORIAL

TO THE GLORY OF GOD

AND IN MEMORY OF

THE MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES

AND OF

THE PALESTINE POLICE FORCE

WHO WORSHIPPED HERE

AND GAVE THEIR LIVES

IN THE SECOND WORLD WAR

AND DURING THE BRITISH MANDATE

1920 - 1948

GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS
THAT A MAN LAY DOWN HIS LIFE
FOR HIS FRIENDS

A FUTURE BISHOP



The late Rt. Rev. W. A. Parker M.A., Bishop of Shrewsbury.
Photograph taken when Anglican Chaplain to the Force in 1934 when
he held the Honorary rank of A.S.P. In much later times the
Anglican Chaplain held rank of Honorary D.S.P.

Photograph from the Parker family.

A LONG TIME AGO



'A thirst of P.P.' or whatever the collective noun should be.
Taken outside The Clachan many years ago, before 'Headquarters'
moved to the Cardinal.

Photograph from the late Tich Freeman who can be seen on far left.

P.P.O.C.A. TRAVEL

Ninth visit to

THE HOLY LAND

27th MAY — 10th JUNE, 1984

Come with members of the association,
their ladies and families to:—

Amman

Aqaba

Jerusalem

and

and other parts of

THE HOLY LAND

Write to:—

T. J. (Terry) Shand

47 Southfields

Hendon, London NW4 4LX

Tel: 01-203 1057

SOUTH AFRICA

News from South Africa is a bit grim these days and consists of deaths, illness and general misfortunes. The brightest letter came from Percy Cleaver and we owe him something like a four page reply. We pray he will forgive the delay and there are a number of lame excuses as to why we have not yet got round to it. Duggie Fairfoul is kicking himself for not sending his usual cable in time for the Annual Reunion Dinner in London but then goes on to say that he was in bed with flu at the time and it slipped his mind. I think we can all forgive him. Those of our number in and around the Cape miss the late James (Cass) Casserly who died on 7th October last (See Obituary notices — Ed) and just before Christmas Andy McKerr collapsed but the last we heard he rallied after weeks in Intensive Care and of course we all wish this popular old friend every health and comfort for 1984.

SEA TRIP

"Sea sickness is one form of travel sickness, although possibly the most violent, so that those who cannot tolerate sea travel would be well advised to go by some other means of transport". Extract from Pears Medical Encyclopaedia.

Most of us who returned to Palestine in March 1946, travelling from Toulon to Alexandria would probably endorse the above, particularly the last part; but the choice was not ours. It was late afternoon when a small band of 80 or so police together with some thousands of troops, embarked at Toulon. The ship was a 'Liberty' of some 12,000 tons, specially designed as a modern troop carrier. We set off into what appeared to my unnautical eye as a fairly choppy sea. The authorities soon had us organised into various duties, no doubt concerned lest we should regard the voyage as a Mediterranean cruise. Without evasion on my part, I was never called upon to perform these duties, so the trip for me did in fact become a cruise. And later, when at the evening meal I chanced to sit near the sergeant who had allocated the P.P. duties and noted his look of speculation in my direction, it was an easy matter not to let the situation repeat itself and to keep out of his view for a time.

The interior planning of the vessel achieved two purposes, utility and economy of space. The sleeping quarters contained tiers of hammocks slung in frames of tubular metal. At first sight too confined for the business of undressing and dressing, but in practice

proving sufficient. Likewise the dining rooms which were rows of tables at which the stools were fixtures, gave accommodation that was adequate but only barely so. Each person on entering the dining room collected a tray indented to take food, and was served at the counter. After the meal a simple method enabled each to wash and stack his tray, making them available for immediate re-use. The following day found the weather unchanged. The meal times were well attended and groups loafed about the deck playing cards, dozing or nattering. From time to time a reproving voice over the inter-com checked any malpractice with a promptness that made us wonder whether an all seeing eye was fitted in the masthead. But nature was preparing to sit in at the game and issue a few instructions of her own. With evening the wind became stronger and the plunging movement of the ship increased. We learned that the holds which were normally used for carrying transport and heavy equipment were empty but that the number of troops being carried was up to capacity and the distribution of weight caused the ship to swing like an inverted pendulum.

The prospect was not assuring. A broken grey sky overhead graduated to an inky blue as it swept below the horizon. The sea reflected the colour of the sky except where it became clay coloured under shafts of sunlight. A boat on the skyline was bobbing like a rocking horse. "Think it'll be alright?" someone asks. "Well I suppose the captain knows what he's doing". Someone answers. A few of us gathered at the stern where the maximum rise and fall could be enjoyed and when the propellers began lifting from the water it set a series of shudders through the ship and it became too much so we abandoned the position for one with less motion amidships. Every time we left the windy spaces of the deck the warm air below, laden with the smell of oil and food, sent spasms through the stomach muscles. The cocoa muster at 9.00 p.m. was poorly attended and throughout the night the pitch and swing continued. The arc like movement of the side rolls seemed endless, causing one's body to tense against what appeared to be ultimate capsizing. At 6.00 a.m. we were awakened by a voice over the speaker. It was a harsh, rasping voice but modulated as though talking to children. "Wakey wakey! Rise and shine! What a lot of old lazy bones we are. Let's have some music while we're putting on our cold socks". There followed records of a woman singing. She sang in a low husky voice and pronounced each word clearly like a personal message to each of her listeners. But she may have been singing to the inmates of a morgue for all the effect she had on most of us.

The rough weather continued and the three sittings for each meal was reduced to one, and then it only catered for a mere handful. But how that handful feasted. Not since pre-war days had food been so plentiful. As the day advanced we divided into two groups. Each group departing from the normal. First were the

seasick group. Withdrawn, silent and remote. Second the non seasick. All high spirited and active but showing a touch of hysteria in the uncontrolled laughter and extravagant gestures plus a certain irresponsibility. The last point would explain the following incident. That evening at 'cocoa up', a young squadie burst in upon us and with much laughter and waving of arms, told how he'd been running round the deck and saw what he thought to be a sack lying in the scuppers. He had taken a flying kick at it, whereupon the 'sack' had given a loud groan and remained lying there. We all laughed heartily at this, thinking it most amusing that the victim was so deep in his misery of sea sickness, that a kick was only a small additional burden and calling for no greater protest than a groan.

Again, later that evening, buffeting round the deck, we passed a lighted porthole. There on his bunk lay one of the crew, and as we watched, he pulled himself up into a sitting position. On his face he bore a look of weary dejection. "Don't look too chirpy do'e" said my companion. The seaman looked up and saw our grinning faces and then his expression changed to one of resentment. But before he could make a move we dashed off into the night to seek fresh subjects for our callous high spirits. But the rough weather was passing and within two days we were into the Mediterranean of the travel brochures. Cloudless skies and seas of deep purple. We had all recovered by the time that Alexandria was reached. In giving us a smooth sea, sunshine and soft winds, nature gave us a cure for the ills she had imposed and we were ready for Palestine once more.

W. SIFFLEET

HORSE TALES

Beisan situated in the northern part of the Jordan valley offered little in the way of entertainment which was perhaps just as well as a recruit into the mounted section spent much of his time working hard to achieve and maintain the high standard of smartness and efficiency demanded by the school's riding instructors. In the summer it was a hot, energy sapping place, but as I had joined a course of instruction in the winter season the oppressive heat had passed and a relatively warm, bearable weather prevailed and on Christmas Day it was comfortably warm wearing just shirt and slacks. Even under these conditions one quickly worked up a sweat, stripped to the waist, grooming a horse in the hope that the energy expended would earn a small crumb of paise from 'Kutch' Nunn. An almost impossible thing to expect, but at least

he and the other instructors succeeded in making good mounted men of us.

At the end of the course I returned to Tulkarm, where for a few weeks, I went on patrols riding spare horses and was later transferred to Qalqilia where again I had a variety of mounts; naturally however I looked forward to the time when I could ride a mount of my own. After what seemed an eternity I was informed that a horse was on its way from Jenin, which was good news although I had reconciled myself to the fact that it would probably be one which had some vice or other for it did not seem likely that a new recruit to the mounted branch would be fortunate enough to get a super horse. When the patrol which delivered him had returned to Tulkarm I was agreeably surprised; he was a grey with a good head, intelligent eyes and alert ears, although a little on the fat side from lack of work. We sized each other up as he snorted into my face and I returned snort for snort just to show him who was going to be boss. This, as all old mounted men will know, was an old established Arab practice and far more ancient than when Barbara Woodhouse publicised the fact on television.

Our first patrol together was the next day when I quickly found his great vice. He would not settle down to a normal walking pace but insisted on a spine jarring jog trot, which I later found was the reason why his previous rider was glad to see him go. However unaware of this at the time I put it down to the fact that he had done little exercise for some considerable time and thought the answer was to be found in plenty of exercise which did my spine no good at all but at least took of quite a lot of surplus fat. I got lots of sympathy and advice and eventually found that by pinching and twisting the skin on his neck every time he started to jog, I gradually and painfully (for both of us) broke this nasty habit and I began to enjoy patrols for the first time since I had taken him over.

However I was to find that he had another trick up his sleeve for the first time he was shod since we had joined company. I took him out on patrol only to find that even before we had reached the compound gate he had a pronounced limp and in my ignorance I took him back to the stables, saddled another horse and asked the farrier to have a look at the offending shoe. I was surprised to learn on my return to the station that the farrier could find nothing wrong. He had walked and trotted on a lead rein without a single trace of a limp. The next time he was fitted with a set of new shoes he tried the same trick again but this time it did not work and we carried on with the patrol. He did not however give up without further protest for once outside the station compound he gave a fair imitation of a bucking bronco, putting his head down and kicking up his hind legs in protest. I let him work off this little bout of temper then we set off at a smart trot

to catch up with the remainder of the patrol where he soon settled down. His pseudo limping act was never repeated but I did notice that on each occasion he was fitted with new shoes he went through a little prancing routine either in protest or, perhaps I misjudged him and he simply wanted to draw our attention to his new shoes.

Like many horses he would shy at the least little thing. Like a leaf or piece of paper blown up by the wind, or take a sudden dislike to perfectly ordinary rock or bush by the track which if possible he would give as wide a berth as possible. Simply refusing to be either driven or coaxed past the object. In contrast however he was quite unmoved by larger things and I remember one morning setting out on a patrol which took us a mile or so along the road to Tulkarm where we were confronted by a mass of bren carriers and light armoured cars tearing along the road towards us; the noise, smoke and dust that this headlong dash created was considerable but he and the other horses in the patrol walked on almost as if they met this sort of thing every day. He shared with me an intense dislike for snakes. He seemed to sense their presence even though he could not immediately see them. One encounter I remember was with a large Syrian black snake which caused him to brace his forelegs and almost sit on his haunches as it crossed our path and after the reptile had disappeared he only walked on very gingerly with head down and snorting at the invisible sign of its passing as if the track had been contaminated.

With the passing of the years I regret to say I cannot remember his official number or name but for obvious reasons he was quickly dubbed 'Jimmy the Jogger'. Later shortened to simply Jimmy when he no longer jarred my spine with the jog trot he introduced himself to me with.

BOB ROWBERRY

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Why are all Wilsons called "Tug"? and why are the Clarks, and even the Clarkes, called "Nobby"? It is to be supposed that one must search the histories of Queen Victoria's army to discover the origins of most of our accepted and almost standardised nicknames now to be regarded as English national usage. I am sure there are some useful books on the subject and were I to live to a Methuselah-ian age, I might just find the time to read one such book and learn for myself, something that I feel I should know all about already. Within these sceptred isles some of our national and racial nicknames are pretty obvious. So we have Paddy, Jock

and Taffy to embellish the friendliest relationships. In Palestine one had only to shout "Where are you Jock?" and quite a few would look up to ask "Which Jock?" and to seek a Paddy was even more difficult without something more precise coming from the lips of the enquirer. What name one wonders was given to the English? There must have been some Sassenachs serving in Scottish and Welsh Regiments. If so what was the identifying name with which they were dubbed?

Pursuing all this further, it is even logical to see how members of the Miller tribe became "Dusty", the Smiths to be called "Smudger", the Whites "Chalky" and the Murphys to be named "Spud". It is not so obvious why generations of Green became "Dodger". "Timber" Wood sounds reasonable too, although there is a variant with "Splinter" Wood and in Palestine two cases of "Chippy" Wood. If one was named Woods one did not escape the impending appellation. But just how the Moor(e)s so frequently became "Pony" is a little more oblique and one must presume a fictional association with wild ponies on Exmoor, Dartmoor and elsewhere to make the connection. "Topper" Brown is something of a mystery and is likely to remain so.

In Palestine we had the "Inkys", "Darkies", "Loftys", "Tichs", "Beefys", "Tubbys" and at least one "Chinny". All acceptable stuff and taken to illustrate certain basic physical features with which the individual concerned was encumbered in life. Usually awarded without rancour and as a sign that the person upon whom the name was bestowed was accepted and completely integrated into the society of those who were not darkish, or stoutish, or shortish. In its way it was a tribal system of fellowship which to a degree marked out those different from the common run but in a nice way as befitted the finest Colonial Police Force in the world. In any case no one cared a jot. Yet regimental nomenclature of some of its constituent parts was to a great extent in the days of Victoria, King Edward VII and George V, predictable and was sometimes rather dull. Not so in Palestine, where the police brought a great deal more into sobriquets of this kind which came rather like cups won in sporting achievements, or because of a deed that had won the hearts of fellow men, so that it was almost a mark of honour to bestow a nickname that somehow stuck throughout ones service in the force and continued to stick for the remainder of life on this earth. A sort of canonisation and in some really rare instances deification.

Anyone joining the force who shared his name with a well known film star of the time was soon dealt with. Thus we had in our ranks a "Betty" Grable, "David" Niven and a "Shirley" Temple. There was at least one Shearer who became "Norma" Shearer throughout his service. I think "Monty" Banks and "Winnie" Sharp fall in this category. The literary world brought

us "Edgar" Wallace and "Trader" Horne (Not our editor it so happens but his namesake in the U.S.A. from the driving fraternity, who proudly bore this title), "Dolly" Grey and "Dan" McGrew came from ballads. Those who commanded Port & Marine launches were quickly dubbed "Skipper", those with big moustaches became "Tashy" or "Bush" as Messrs. Gould and Beasley can testify. Some names were delightfully euphemistic and even allegorical hence we recognise the justification for "Dinger" Bell, C. A. R. Lawrence of cricketing fame was always "Car" and while in the vehicle world C. A. B. Walter soon became "Cabby" and both will ever be remembered as such. Because of his prowess in the Hebrew tongue "Moshe" Dickson sound about right. "Flash" Gordon had to be, as did "Mark" Anthony and "Bunny" Warren, although "Bunny" Henwood needs some explaining. "Jock" Strapp was I suppose inevitable and a delightful name for collectors to remember is "Seldom" Wright. The Arabic tongue gave us many instances of ready made nicknames and I recall "Mashi" Walker, "Jebel" Hill(s), "Ma'arlish" Drew and because of a cunning play upon his family name "Jebel" Druce was very apt. There were of course the usual collections of "Gingers", "Chicks" (not always very obvious), "Bucks" of whom the best known is I suppose "Buck" Adams (Senior) and not forgetting "Buck" Reeves, "Sparks", "Spotty" (I can think of only one) and "Haj" a great honour indeed to the few that enjoyed sufficient status among those learned in Arabic.

We have heard from their own lips how "Sailor" Oliver became Sailor and how "Happy" Simpson became Happy, but some of our best known characters bore nicknames that require explanation. "Spoons" Robinson comes to mind. Shall I guess that he played the spoons? "Doc" Tullett who when asked how he came by the name simply said that he was in the southern desert and someone went down with appendicitis and the party discovered he was the only one with a penknife. Not a story to be taken very seriously, surely. "Matey" Martin must have an explanation. He is sufficiently well known for some of us to ponder upon the matter. "Potato" Jones of Jenin fame suggests that whatever the reason we might be silly to ask. "Fruity" Ward is also in this category, while the late "Burglar" Williams seems to have died with what sounds like a wonderful secret unshared among his peers. I often wonder where "Mush" Chappel collected his "Monica" and I met "Budge" Savoury a few times and never discovered the reason for his nickname. "Kutch" Nunn was another uncrowned king of his kind and "Crash" Holloway sounds to have an exciting connotation. "Norker" Hoskins is too puzzling for a chap like me and "Killer" Callan almost too obvious. "Slooge" Hawley sounds as though our former heavyweight boxing champion of kindly and gentle heart did or said something to bring about a really distinctive handle that has lasted him all his life. "Tiddler"

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Hickman, "Noisy" Reeves and "Hank" Jensen on the other hand rank with "Junior" Cannings. We wonder about them all but feel it silly to ask. What poor Horrigan did to get called "Orrible" on one occasion we may never know. A lovely chap but was he misunderstood? Personally I always liked "Penny" Bunn and "Dicky" Bird and I recall when a chap got himself stopped in London and asked for his name. He got himself arrested because he promptly and truthfully answered Dick Bird. Dixey Dean and Fingers Burn should be added to our list before we stop wrestling with our memories. All readers can come up with more and doubtless will mutter away to themselves in an endeavour to do so.

But we brought colour to the whole darned business of re-naming ourselves. It was usually a sign of affection and respect as well as a large element of trust. We needed all such qualities to get ourselves out of difficulties. Sometimes the nickname was a great improvement on the owner's baptismal name and sometimes official orders revealed a most unsatisfactory situation and I am reminded of the young Fusilier Rea who joined the Territorial Army in 1938. Soon afterwards his regiment changed its role to artillery and Fusilier Rea became Gunner Rea. He was very cross about that.

ONBASHI

OBITUARY NOTICES

With regret I report the death of George Reginald (Bunny) Warren on 23rd August, 1983 at the age of 67. Bunny Warren joined the Palestine Police on 2nd January, 1937 when aged 21 and he served for ten years, mostly with the mounted section at Beisan. He had reached the rank of British Inspector serving at Majdal when he left Palestine in 1947. There followed two years liaison and survey work with Middle East Pipelines Limited before he joined the Foreign (later Foreign and Commonwealth) Office in 1949 where it was my privilege to meet him for the first time. He had a wide knowledge of the Middle East and was proficient in Arabic as well as Hebrew, having studied both languages with distinction at the School of Oriental Studies, London University. So he was able to make a valuable contribution to his department. These assets linked with his tireless energy, efficiency and loyalty were much missed by his colleagues when he retired in 1977.

Bunny bore a bronchial condition with great fortitude for many years and when the worst was diagnosed he underwent a

month's treatment at Exeter Hospital then afterwards chose to stay at home, but his heart was weakened and he passed away where he wished to be, close to his beloved Margo, wife and companion for the past 39 years.

The funeral service took place on 30th August at Willand Church, near Cullompton, Devon and the association was well represented with the presence of Tom and Betty Urwin (branch secretary), Charles Greenstreet, Bill Hawkes and David Sparkes. On behalf of all his former comrades I extend our deepest sympathy to his much loved Margo who has asked that a donation be sent to the P.P. Benevolent Association instead of flowers in memory of her husband. We are very grateful for this.

TREVOR KIRBY

Yet another old comrade has passed away and it is my task to inform readers that former 1st British Sergeant 2205 George Alexander Marks died on 14th January this year. His career through life was typical of the best and the most useful kind of man that went to make up the finest material recruited into the force. "Marko" as he was sometimes known came from Nottingham and joined the British Army in May 1918 in which he saw a great deal of service in Egypt, Turkey and India. He left in 1927 and for a time had local employment in Nottingham with Messrs. Boots Ltd. in the course of which he held a supervisory position. But as with so many others, he answered the call to join The Palestine Police and his date of appointment was 14th January, 1939. He went on to serve in foot, mounted as well as C.I.D. sections and probably became best known for his time in C.I.D. Headquarters in Jerusalem. He was given many assignments of great importance which included personal escorts to at least six V.I.P.s who visited Palestine for various periods of time including royalty and was also Assistant Security Officer for the U.N. Special Committee (U.N.S.C.O.P.) for which he received high commendation and something to be added to the other 10 already shown on his service record. He was discharged from the force after the Stand Down. Afterwards he was employed with the Foreign Office—later F. & C. O.—and had postings in places as far apart as Yugoslavia, Japan and Portugal. In more recent times he and his wife settled at Lord Harris Court, Male Road, Sindlesham, nr. Wokingham, Berkshire, where I was sometimes able to visit him. He joined our association in its very early days and soon afterwards became a Double Life member. There was no funeral service because his body was given by request to medical research. But a memorial service took place on 25th January at a chapel

within the precinct of Lord Harris Court. This was well attended by close relatives and friends. The association was represented by myself and Tom Pearce (ex traffic section) and two other P.P. whose names are not to hand.

He leaves a widow, Betty, who is, I'm afraid, in poor health, although I am glad to say she is in good hands and is being well looked after by a niece who lives close by. We offer her our deepest sympathy in the loss of her husband, who was a fine comrade of ours, an honourable and loyal servant of the crown and the best possible advertisement for our old force.

TOM HARBISON

Sadly I have to write of the death of former British Constable 342 James Casserly on 7th October, 1983. As many readers are aware "Cass" had been ill and bed-ridden for some considerable time but thanks to the efforts of Steve Gill (of boxing fame in Palestine) a small lunch was arranged at which Steve, Andy McKerr, J. G. (Bunny) Stafford and myself were able to attend upon Cass and he seemed to appreciate that he had old friends around but I regret to say that deterioration then became rapid and in less than a month afterwards he had gone. Cass joined the force in June 1943 and he spent much of his service in the Jaffa area working under Geof Morton, whom, incidentally, he always held in very high esteem. Later he transferred to Haifa on Price Control duties and it was then that we got to know each other and I appreciate many happy memories of a fine laddie, for such he remained throughout all the years I have known him including our time in South Africa and perhaps the best way to describe all this is to use the affectionate name given to him by his wife. "Her fine Irish squire."

A funeral Mass took place on the morning of 11th October and the four P.P. mentioned above were in attendance, so that THE TIE was in evidence. Later there was a private cremation service. All old comrades and in particular those who served with Cass will have in mind thoughts of condolence to his widow, Aletta whom I am glad to say has taken the blow exceedingly well. She lives at "The Hermitage", Rica Louw Avenue, Constantia, Cape 7800, R.S.A.

DUGGIE FAIRFOUL

THE LATE GEORGE ALEXANDER MARKS



Photograph from the family-vid Tom Harbison

On 3rd December, 1983 a much respected Yorkshire Branch member passed away and I refer to J. W. (Joseph) Conroy of 20 Wreyfield Drive, Scarborough, North Yorkshire YO12 6NN. He was aged 70. It is now my sad duty to report the matter to readers. In Palestine "Joe" carried the number 2461 and he joined the force on 18th May, 1940. He and I served together at the Depot and later at Sa Sa Frontier Post. We were also in Safed and then Haifa, where he was joined by his dear wife Kathleen. They both returned to the U.K. in 1947. Joe was in many ways a remarkable man and had a sense of "service" to mankind that was appreciated by his friends. For many years he was Secretary of the Yorkshire Branch of this association but in 1975 felt obliged to give it up, although he did agree to be Branch Treasurer for a few months longer. It so happens that he had a very rare blood group and when it was realised that his blood was in great demand for transfusion purposes to those who required the same group, he readily gave blood donations for many years to the point that in 1977 he was given a gold award after donating 50 pints of blood. His game was always Rugby Football which in his younger days he played well for Bradford in the League and he was also an active member of Scarborough Rugby Club. The cremation took place at Scarborough on 6th December and the association was represented by Laurie Henfrey, John Brown, and myself with my wife Ruby. He leaves Kathleen, his widow, together with a son, Peter and daughter Mary, to whom we all extend our deepest sympathy in the loss of a devoted husband and father.

JOE KEETON

A shock went round Southern and Western Counties branch when news was spread of the sudden and totally unexpected death of William (Bill) Simmons formerly of 17 Ellesfield Drive, Fern-down, Dorset BH22 8QN. He passed away on 21st November, 1983 in Boscombe Hospital, Bournemouth from a massive heart attack. Bill Simmons was formerly British Constable 1758 having joined the Palestine Police in November 1938. Prior to that he served in The 1st Kings Dragoon Guards and was immensely proud of the fact. It seems only yesterday, although it was in fact last autumn that Bill was telling some of us, then gathered at the Arosa Guest House in Bournemouth at one of Bunny and Betty Henwood's "evenings", how he and his equally well known brother Harry, also a member of the force and living in Yorkshire were brought up in Yorkshire and how a third brother was killed in the first occasion that German raiders came inshore and shelled a British seaside town in 1914. I remember thinking that Palestine

might have had a set of "three" brothers in the force. But now only the memory remains. After leaving Palestine he lived for many years in Rhodesia before taking up private business in England in 1970. His family were always close friends of Roy and Ivy Mann, but readers will doubtless recall that Bill's wife Barbara died several years ago, as did Roy Mann. In their separate ways both were keen members of Southern & Western Counties Branch.

At a cremation ceremony in Bournemouth a week later, the association was represented by Mrs. Ivy Mann and her daughter (S. & W. Counties branch committee member and herself a P.P. widow and a friend of long standing with the deceased and his family)—Mike Kelly, Hank Jenson, Bill Hawkes, Les Acton, Wally Sendell, G. N. (Happy) Simpson, Robin (Matey) Martin, Mrs. Kate Shand and her daughter Ann, Bernard (Bunny) and Betty Henwood and Tom and Betty Urwin. To Bill's son Neil we all send our deep and sincere sympathy. Finally not to forget Bill's surviving brother Harry, also our comrade, who is anything but fit and to whom we extend our sincere condolences at a time when he must have mixed feelings to tinge his own private sadness.

EDWARD HORNE

After losing two well known branch members in quick succession (Bunny Warren and Bill Simmons), it came as a terrible blow to discover that our former Branch Chairman, Cecil Kennedy, had died in his sleep on 9th December, 1983. He had not been well for some months having developed trouble with his legs and feet and he had suffered a heart attack in the autumn. Cecil, a former British Inspector in Palestine, was well known in association circles in which he was a Life Member although I do not possess details of his service in Palestine. Since I came to know him in the course of branch committee work, I came to respect him both as a man and for his adamant adherence to his principles and I think that safely sums him up. He was greatly respected by everyone which is no bad thing in this day and age. A funeral service took place at St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Poole and because he was very well known in his community the church seemed packed. His widow, Clare, and her son and daughter were joined by over 100 mourners. The association was represented by the following: Hank Jenson, Ernie Du Val, Mike Kelly, Trevor Kirby, Maurice Callard, Mrs. Kathe Shand and her daughter Ann, Bernard (Bunny) Henwood and his wife Betty, David and Mrs. Hyde, Doc Gracie and Tom and Betty Urwin. A wreath bearing the P.P. colours was placed on the coffin at the request of his

widow. The officiating priest gave a virtual eulogy which was much appreciated and the Holy City was sung by Mrs. Pat Alderson accompanied by Colin Petheram on the church organ. Someone said "It sounded like the angels singing" and the church authorities regarded it all as a most moving occasion. In time others may choose to write a more fulsome obituary but on behalf of all Cecil's former friends and comrades I convey our very deep sympathy to his family in their bereavement. The branch affairs will not be quite the same again.

TOM URWIN

I regret to have to inform readers that Douglas G. D. Dixie, a former British Inspector in the force, passed away suddenly at his home in 6542 East Sooke Road, BR I, Sooke, B.C., Canada VOS INO on 30th November, 1983. Douglas joined the Palestine Police in 1934 and served until 1946 and he was probably best known for his time at C.I.D. Headquarters in Jerusalem. But in that year he went on promotion to the Bahamas Police and following that he transferred again to Sierra Leone. He was a Life Member of the association and a keen member in the early days when for a short time he was secretary of the Sierra Leone Branch. He leaves a widow, Hermione, a Canadian lady as well as a step-daughter who in turn has children. To his widow and her family we offer our sincere and heartfelt sympathy.

EDITOR

Former friends of A. W. (Beefy) Humphries, ex-British Sergeant 168 in Palestine will regret to hear that he died during the summer months of 1983. His widow, Joan, still resides at 12 Willow Close, Newbold, Verdon, Leicestershire. "Beefy" who joined the force in January 1938 was probably best known for his service in the M.T. Section. We salute another old comrade of ours who has passed on and extend condolences to Joan.

EDITOR

As we prepare these pages, news came that W. T. (Titch) Cullingham of 47 Upper Chyngton Gardens, Seaford, East Sussex BN25 3SB died in the night of 24th/25th January, 1984 from cancer. He was 78. We are grateful to C. A. B. (Cabby) Walter the secretary of South-Eastern Counties branch for keeping us informed of his deteriorating health in recent weeks and of his admission to Eastbourne District Hospital last November for surgery. None of which makes the news of his death easier to bear. He leaves a widow, Audrey as well as a son and daughter. A funeral service took place at Eastbourne Crematorium on 31st January at which the association was represented.

EDITOR

How sad and deep sorrow to hear the news of W. T. Cullingham's (Titch) death on 24th January, 1984. A most likeable person whom I first met in 1931. We again made contact in Beisan during 1936. In recent years being not too far apart, my wife and I again met in Kent and have kept in touch infrequently, in fact he and his wife Audrey visited us at my home and our local.

I went to Seaford where he had recently moved during September 1983, the conversation being most "What happened to old so and so etc." A man of small stature with a big heart. You are sadly missed and my deepest condolences to his wife and family.

JOHN D. BEVAN, C.P.M.

I regret to report the death on 4th December, 1983 at Kings College Hospital of Sidney Herbert Baldi, aged 59. He died from cancer of the liver. Before he joined the force he had served in the Royal Marine Commando's where he had been mentioned in dispatches for an action under enemy fire. In the force he bore the rank and number of British Constable 3304 although I do not know what date he actually joined, because up to 1945 the number was allotted to someone else. After the "Stand Down" he joined the Royal Engineers. At the funeral the association was represented by Dennis Stephens (Southern and Western Counties Branch) who is an old friend of the Baldi family. Sid was not married and lived at 6 Fawcett Road, Croydon, Surrey. We have lost a loyal and gallant comrade.

CABBY WALTER

FURTHER TO OBITUARY NOTICES ALREADY GIVEN

Further to the obituary notice that appeared in newsletter 132 (September 1983) in respect to my father Edward George Mackie who actually died in hospital soon after he was admitted. His former friends and comrades may like to know that he had very deep feelings for those in the Palestine Police and he considered it the key to his later success in life. The training, discipline and friendship gained in the P.P. was the basis for his later accomplishments. Even after retirement from the Colonial Police in Tanganyika and the move to California my father kept contact with his friends in Palestine and Tanganyika days. I enclose a cheque as a donation in his memory and to the memory of his deceased friend Alec Mackenzie and all his other friends, past and present. I hope this gift will help someone, as those from the P.P. who helped us those many years ago.

KEITH MACKIE

It is not our policy to publish the amounts of any cheques donated to our charity. But a full acknowledgement in suitably worded form was sent to Mr. Keith Mackie for what can only be expressed as a very generous and much appreciated donation.

EDITOR

SHORT NOTICES OF DEATH

Information is to hand that a former Palestine Policeman, Tom Skeet, died on 27th October last after a long illness. We regret we have no further information and to date can only trace a lapsee, F. J. Skeet, one time B/Sgt. 2441 who lived in London. So we do not really know more than that. Perhaps some other member can assist.

Sadly we also have to report the death of Maurice James Silcock, formerly B/Const. 1845 who died on 21st November, 1983. He was a lapsee of the association.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Malcolm Parry, C.P.M. of 2 Westbury Close, Becton Lane, Barton-on-Sea, New Milton, Hampshire BH25 7AZ whose dear wife Nell died on 2nd November, 1983. She was later cremated at Bournemouth at a private ceremony. There are no children.

PALESTINE POLICE—O.C.A.

BENEVOLENT ASSOCIATION

(Registered Charity No. 282492)

Objects: To relieve need, hardship and distress amongst members of the association, their widows and other dependents.

Chairman:

S. W. Hills, K.P.M., B.E.M.

Flat 57, Kemp House, Berwick Street, London W1V 3PN

Telephone 01-437 4483

Secretary:

S. P. Johnson

19 The Crest, Eastwood, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex.

Tel: 01-586 0226 (Business weekdays)

Southend 521805 (Private weekends)

Details of members of the former Palestine Police Force, or their dependents, now in reduced circumstances and requiring assistance, should be sent in the first instance to the Branch Secretary or where an O.C.A. Branch does not exist, to the Benevolent Association Secretary. All cases will be dealt with in strict confidence.

Funds are essential for this very needy cause. Donations should be sent to either the Chairman or Secretary of the Benevolent Association, or to any member of the Central Council or Branch Secretary for onward transmission.

Members who wish to pay regular donations by way of Deed of Covenant should write to the Secretary of the Benevolent Association.

Mrs. Olive Lamphier, wife of Tom Lamphier 33 Parade Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP4 4BH died on 29th October, 1983. A donation has been made by London Branch to the Royal National Institute of the Blind in her memory. Her husband Tom, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy is a Registered Blind Person and cannot be finding things easy now that his wife has passed away.

Another lady to pass away is Mrs. Ann Barraclough who died on 23rd October last just a few weeks after losing her husband, Harry, whose death was reported in the last issue. She was well known in Yorkshire Branch circles and both the Barracloughs will be sadly missed.

Yet another lady who has died in recent months is Mrs. Lillian Simmons (Address not supplied—Ed.) wife of George Simmons who passed away on 18th September last. A suitable obituary notice was published in the Yorkshire branch newsletter by her old friend Mrs. Maud Turnbull who knew her well in Palestine. All George's old comrades will extend their condolences in such a loss.

As these notes were being prepared we heard that Joan, wife of John Rushbridge, White Hart Inn, Harwell, Oxfordshire died last October aged 57. Lew and Pam Boffin were able to attend the funeral service. Our sympathy is extended to John at such a moment.

GREETINGS SECTION

MATTHEWS, F. R. (Tank)—39 Lynn Road, Heacham, Kings Lynn, Norfolk PE31 7JF sends greetings and salaams to:—Bill Kendrick (Israel), Frank O'Neil (West Sussex), Laurie Henfrey and "Tig" Ford.

MOUQUE, Frank and Nina—2 Stredwick Drive, Torbay, Auckland 10, New Zealand (See Changes of Address—Ed.), send greetings to John and Dorothy Foster, Jimmy and Madge Lindsay, Jimmy and Hannah Weeks and to all in London Branch whom they saw so often prior to 1972.

LANCASTER, George—1 Oaklands, The Street, Mersham, Ashford, Kent TN25 6NE sends greetings and best wishes to all branches and members within the O.C.A. as well as all those who have connections with us.

BACON, Chris—864 Tanager Avenue, Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7T 2Y2 sends greetings to Micky Hills, Terry Shand (Association Chairman) and all, and thanks them for their tremendous welcome when he dropped into the Cardinal in 1983.

HOWELL, Don—11 Turnstone Road, Rest-Bay, Porthcawl, Mid Glamorgan CF36 3RD sends greetings and good wishes for the New Year to all entitled to wear the P.P. Badge of Honour.

NEWMAN, Tom—3 Irwin Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5PW sends greetings and good wishes to more or less everyone whom he had known in the force and in the association and who think kindly of him on occasions.

CONGRATULATIONS

Occasionally glamour and talent come in the same package and we are pleased to offer congratulations to Joyce Macaulay, wife of Don Macaulay. Who both live at 33 Cray Avenue, Orpington, Kent BR5 4AA. Joyce is an athletic coach and many of those who attended the Cardinal on Sunday, 2nd October last may remember that she was in the company of young Natalie Davies, her star athletic pupil. Now we are glad to offer congratulations to both ladies since Natalie who comes from St. Paul's Cray in Kent has been chosen as one of three British gymnasts in next year's Olympic Team. Last year in Hungary, she claimed second spot behind our National Champion, Hayley Price. We also offer congratulations to Joyce Macaulay who trained her and who must be thrilled at the achievement of her protege. This editor has seen a picture of the champion. Keep an eye out chaps, she's good to look at and we wish her all success in America.

Congratulations are due to J. H. (John) Grieve, C.P.M. on his award of the Imperial Service Order in the New Year Honours List following his retirement as Chief Superintendent from the Royal Hong Kong Police (now settled in U.K. See Changes of Address—Ed.). So he is now J. H. Grieve, Esq., I.S.O., C.P.M. and well deserved too.

Great excitement in the Clow household at 55 Hawfinch Walk, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8BE when on 16th October, 1983 a third child, Stephanie Linda Clow was born. She weighed 6lb. 10oz at time of arrival. It is sad that former A.S.P. A. W.

(Andy) Clow, M.B.E. was not there to enjoy the event. Readers will recall that he died on 4th January, 1983. But his two previous grandchildren, Andrew and Marika must have given him much pleasure and now they have a little sister, congratulations are certainly due.

Chris Bacon of 864 Tanager Avenue, Burlington, Ontario, Canada L7T 2Y2 is rightly proud of his granddaughter, Mandy who has passed her finals as squad leader at the Police Training Centre in Wales. She has now been posted (November 1983) to Amersham in the Thames Valley Force and at the time said that she was a bit apprehensive at being let loose on the public. It will pass as we all know. But congratulations to Mandy from all of us. Perhaps we shall see her one day at a South Midlands Branch function.

SICK PARADE

SAGAR, John—c/o Doug Stephens Bait & Tackle Shop, 10 Union Street, Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire has more or less put his own name on the sick list, this quarter, when he itemised the headings for newsletter purposes at the top of his last letter. This old comrade has not been in anything like good health in recent years and friends will be glad to know he is planning to move into a suitable rest home. Until that time his address, as shown above is purely temporary. May he soon settle into a comfortable billet and may we continue to enjoy his company, and his letters for many years to come.

HEATHFIELD, Charlie—48 Alfred Road, Ashford, Kent TN24 0PH was admitted to an Intensive Care Unit just before Christmas suffering from some sort of heart attack, or so our informant, Charlie's old friend George Lancaster who lives in nearby Mersham tells us by letter. It was thought likely that he would be out of hospital early in January (as this is being typed). Everyone who knows this old comrade will wish him much better health in 1984. He is one of our staunchest Cenotaph supporters and we need him on parade. At time of writing Ron Pemble was also able to visit him.

ORMSBY, Frank—Unit 23, 39 Woodstock Street, Bondi Junction, Sydney 2022, New South Wales and secretary of the New South Wales Branch no less, has been confined to hospital for as long as it takes to perform a hernia operation and recover from the experience. Could be a bit nasty, or at any rate uncomfortable. But we are assured he was due out in time for Christmas. We pray all is now well.

MEDALLIA, Mordechai—We regret to hear that this former member of the force was knocked down near his home last August and suffered two broken legs. There followed a lengthy stay in hospital and attention in the Levinstein Rehabilitation Centre, Ra'anana. We all hope this old comrade is now very much improved.

HUMPHREY, Mrs. Pat—widow of the late Jack Humphreys formerly of 40 Arundel Drive, East, Saltdean, East Sussex was taken ill before Christmas and admitted to Lawnscliff Nursing Home, 155 Kingsway, Hove, East Sussex. Her daughter Kay is able to keep an eye on her and we hope she improves in general health in good time.

SKELLY, E. S. (Mick)—26 Whitby Court, Parkhurst Road, Holloway, London N7 0SU in what seemed a very cheerful letter, reported himself sick when apparently he was admitted into an Intensive Care Unit at North London Hospital on 18th October last after a heart attack. Writing on 3rd November he states "I am home". He has to be careful however and quite right too. May he continue to improve.

KAY, E. H. (Ernie)—4 Ancrum Drive, Dundee, Angus recently (written 4.1.84) had his leg amputated and is still having problems after an unfortunate accident at his home which has set him back. Ernie supplies all those lovely framed pictures at Scottish Branch raffles and we feel sure old friends wish him a very early recovery and adjustment to his new life style. Quite a number of branch members have been able to visit him while in hospital and we feel sure this has done a power of good.

SCRIMGEOUR, Jim—92 Perth Road, Scone, Perthshire has also suffered six weeks in hospital, this time in Perth Infirmary. We trust he is now improved in all departments.

THOMSON, John—6 Hawarden Terrace, Perth was also in Perth Infirmary for a short spell at the same time as Jim Scrimgeour as a matter of fact and we are given to understand has since improved. May he retain good health for many years to come.

McKERR, Andy, C.P.M.—1 Ferndale, Blackheath Road, Three Anchors Bay, Cape Town 8001 collapsed at work sometime in November last (we believe) suffering from a bleeding ulcer which required a major blood transfusion. There was an operation and much time in Intensive Care but we are given to understand he is gradually recovering. May he soon be greatly improved with nothing short of a full return to health.

MISSEN, Jack—74 East Whitecroft, 52313 Range Road, 232 Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada T8B 1B7 had half his left lung removed in August 1983 together with a top left rib which seems to have brought problems with his handwriting—or so he says. We found it easy to read. He is not complaining and points out: “When Adam lost a rib, he started something from which the world has never recovered.” So he feels he should not make a fuss. (See also Change of Address—Ed.).

THOMAS, Mrs. Margaret—7 Rimmer Avenue, Liverpool L16 2NE and wife of John the long serving treasurer of Merseyside Branch, spent a period in hospital in December when she received laser treatment for an eye condition. But the last we heard is that she is out and about and we look forward to seeing her at John’s side at various functions in the forthcoming year.

FLYNN, W. J. (Bill)—590 Howlands, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 4ET suffered a stroke on 29th December, 1983 and is now in hospital (written 6th January). We know that all members wish him a speedy recovery.

PITMAN, E. C. (Eddie)—2 Ashwood Road, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire is still far from well, having suffered for many years and stoically managing to keep going. All members will wish Eddie a better and more comfortable 1984.

STRATTON, W. G. (Wally)—43 Gorham Drive, St. Albans, Hertfordshire, is in poor health—or so we hear. May he too be greatly improved and soon returned to full activity in the near future.

MEEKINS, G. H. (George)—3 Hollingsworth Road, Park Wood, Maidstone, Kent has had quite a long stay in hospital and although out now (January) he is not yet fully recovered. When asked about his condition he replied “Nas wa Nus”. We hope to hear in the near future that is “Mabsut”.

MEEKINS, J. W. (Jim)—4 Devon Road, Shepway Estate, Maidstone, Kent, brother to George, is also unwell and went into hospital again because of his eyes. Whereas he found things easier than on a former visit he still has problems with double vision which must be put right. We all hope he gets his “MoT” at last, something well deserved.

CARTY, Dermot—Address not to hand in Irish Republic. Information is available from J. J. (Dan) McGlew that “Paddy” Carty well known to many of us as 2/B/Sgt. Carty of various places in Palestine, not the least being District C.I.D. Nablus and later in Royal Hong Kong Police, has suffered from the loss of a leg. All his old pals will wish this popular member of the force a speedy and rapid resumption of comfort and mobility. Perhaps soon we shall discover his address.

CARADON, The Lord—203 Drake House, Dolphin Square, London, S.W.1 has reported to suffering from a painful nerve ailment in his back and legs which he hopes to be a purely temporary indisposition. He actually states: “I promise to do better when I am better.” The Rt. Hon. Lord Caradon, G.C.M.G., K.C.V.O., O.B.E. P.C., is one of our patrons and we all hope he is soon very much better.

BARBER, Bob—2 Madam Lane, Barnby Dun, nr. Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN3 1EP has not been well and suffered a “stroke” before Christmas. Our information is that he was allowed out of hospital in time for the festivities, such as they might be considered in the circumstances but was then returned afterwards.

WALLACE, Edgar—21 Norman Court, Whatton Road, Kegworth, Derbyshire DE7 2DT has not been well either. Although details are obscure, it is nice to know that his son-in-law is temporarily in this country from Australia where he usually lives. Perhaps when we hear more in the process of time. We can inform readers the more.

NEW MEMBERS

- 5074 PEMBLE, R. W. H., ex-B/M/Const. 659—Colt Farm, Bromley Green Road, Upper Ruckinge, Ashford, Kent.
- 5075 POVEY, L. E., ex-B/Const. 2607—12 St. Margaret’s Drive, Westbury-on-Trym, Bristol, Avon BS9 4LW.
- 5076 COOLING, J., ex-B/Const. 3048—10 Stoke Avenue, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG24 4PH.
- 5077 WHITEHEAD, D. W., ex-B/Const. 2670—Armit, Flat 1, 59 Bondi Road, Bon Beach, Victoria 3196, Australia.
- 5078 McKINLEY, M. J., Q.P.M., ex-A/A.S.P. 1155—1 East Street, Beaminster, Dorset DT8 3DS.

RE-TRACED LIFE MEMBER

- L.784 POWERS, W., ex-B/Sgt. 1324—365 Old Bedford Road, Luton, Bedfordshire LU2 7BL.

REJOINING MEMBERS

- 177 CURTIS, J., ex-B/Const. 778—45 Branston Close, Winthorpe, Newark, Nottinghamshire.
- 4204 DRAKE, K. R., ex-B/M/Const. 3460—Wayside, 8 School Road, Bishops Cleeve, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire.
- 2150 MCGLEW, J. J., ex-B/Const. 549—Boyerstown House, Navan, Co. Meath, Eire.
- 2158/4837 WRIGHT, G. A., ex-B/Sgt. 661—Victoria Coach, Victoria Square, Truro, Cornwall TR1 2RS.
- 4997 HARBON, C. H., ex-B/Const. 1194—8 St. Margaret's Road, Northfleet, Kent.
- 3065 DAWSON, A. S., ex-B/Const. 3442—65 Sandringham Road, Bromley, Kent BR1 5AR.
- 4514 GOLBY, W. J., ex-B/Sgt. 2783—140 Minerva Way, Cambridge.
- 1665/4841 REDDIE, C. D., ex-B/Const. 921—Frith Common Farm-house, Wolverton, Basingstoke, Hampshire.

NEW ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

- A.132 BASTON, P., (son of W. H. C. Baston, ex-B/Const. 3855)—2 Simpson Close, Malpas, Newport, Gwent, South Wales.
- A.133 EADON-CLARKE, C. E., (son of C. S. Eadon-Clarke, ex-B/Const. 2879)—14 Sandown Road, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 3EJ.
- A.134 MACKIE, K. A., (son of the late E. G. Mackie, ex-B/Const. 1033)—511 Saukpath Drive, Oakbrook, Illinois 60521, U.S.A.

- A.135 EDWARDS, Capt. P. A. W., (son of J. A. Edwards, ex-B/M/Sgt. 42)—4 Regiment, Army Air Corps, B.F.P.O.41.
- A.136 CRADDOCK, A. J., (son of J. Craddock, ex-B/Const. 224)—Mijenin, Little Frieth, nr. Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire.
- A.137 REDDIE, G. C., (son of C. D. Reddie, ex-B/Const. 921)—Legal Adviser and Solicitor, Commonwealth War Graves Commission, 2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire SL6 7DX.
- A.138 AYRE, S. R., (son of G. P. Ayre, ex-B/Const. 3082)—11 Mansfield Heights, Great North Road, East Finchley, London, N.2.
- A.139 MOUNTAIN, A., (son of G. J. Mountain, ex-B/Sgt. 1690)—49 Northdene, Chigwell, Essex IG7 5JS.

NEW DONOR MEMBERS

- 128 RICHARDS, Mrs. K., 7 Downs Road, Hunstanton, Norfolk PE36 5HX.
- 129 MacDONALD, N., 35 Circular Road, Prestwich, Manchester, Greater Manchester M25 8NR.

TRACERS

- HILL, R. E.—5 Berberis Court, Shoreham, West Sussex BN4 6JA.
- SAWYER, D. W.—8 River Valley Drive, Windsor Gardens, South Australia 5087, Australia.
- QUINN, A. M.—Flat 10, Kowloon City Police Station, Married Quarters, 194 Argyle Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong.
- HOUSE, T. J.—P.O.B.3, Forbes, New South Wales 2871, Australia.
- HALL, Mrs. E.—of 148 Ashton Road, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS20 1RE has written to ask the whereabouts of one McGrath. After some eliminating it would appear she is anxious to contact former B/Sgt. 2714 Jim McGrath who went on to serve in Uganda after leaving Palestine and whose present whereabouts are not known. Anyone able to assist please contact Mrs. Hall and oblige.

THE LOVELL SOCIETY & BIBLE LAND SOCIETY JOINT STAMP FELLOWSHIP

The above stamp fellowship is run by Eric and Mary Peacock of:

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It started in 1946 to help the Lovell Home for Blind Girls which was one time at Beit Jala. It later moved to Bethlehem and is now situated in East Jerusalem.

When it started it raised £10 in 1946 but now with the help of keen philatelists and supporters it is hoped to raise £1000 each year.

The home was quite well known to some members of the force, and the Peacocks came to know several Palestine Police Officers, and they now ask: Can any ex-P.P. help? Booklets of British and Overseas stamps are made up and the profits of sales go towards the home. Of course any stamps (swaps and so forth) not wanted can be sent anyway and these will help towards the target amount.

Somewhere in Jerusalem there are some blind children who need money to keep the home going. Please help.

KELLY, Mike—of 1 Leeson Drive, Ferndown, Wimborne, Dorset BH22 9QL is trying to trace the whereabouts of former B/Const. 1129 George Bounds (1939-1946 vintage). Formerly of Sheffield before going to Palestine. If any Yorkshire Detective can do a telephone book check and inform Mike of the result it will be greatly appreciated.

A Mr. R. REED of 31 Coy Pond Road, Branksome, Poole, Dorset is anxious to trace the whereabouts of former British Constable 3076 E. W. Strutt-Cavell who joined the force 18th May, 1940 and later ended as a Prosecutions Officer. Anyone with news or clues can either contact Mr. Reed on telephone: Bournemouth 764132 or G. N. (Happy) Simpson; Bournemouth 25137, and oblige.

FRIENDS of Mrs. Nancy Crabtree, widow of the late R. N. Crabtree of The Meads, Bury Road, Flempton, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk are anxious to trace her present whereabouts. Anyone in the "know" please inform the General Secretary.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

BRIGGS, A. J., 15 Quayside, Admirals Quay, Bridgewater, Somerset TA6 5AZ (from F.C.O. Ankara).

BROCK, A. B., 38 Acreman Court, Sherborne, Dorset (from The Hogs Head, Bournemouth).

BURNEY, A., C.P.M., OS Golfinnos, 8400 Praia Do Carvoeiro, Algarve, Portugal (Amendment).

CHECKLEY, W. T., 11 Bownham Mead, Rodborough Common, Stroud, Gloucestershire (from London).

CHEDZOY, A. L., 15 Caewar Road, Llanduff, Cardiff, Glamorgan, South Wales (from Penarth).

CONNELL, D. E., The Mount, Hasthorpe Road, Sloothby, nr. Alford, Lincolnshire (from West Sussex).

GRAY, Col. W. N., C.M.G., D.S.O., K.P.M., The Bacchus House, Elsdon, Northumberland NE19 1AA (from Selkirk).

GRIEVE, J. H., I.S.O., C.P.M., 19 Greenwood, 31 Princes Way, Wandsworth, London SW19 6QH (from Hong Kong).

GRIST, S. G., 6 Watermill Close, Kneal Road, Milnrow, Rochdale, Lancashire (from Heywood).

HOOK, I., 10 Milton Street, St. Mary's Square, Brixham, Devon
TQ5 0BX (from Tadley, Hampshire).

IMRIE, W. M., 72 Boscombe Grove Road, Bournemouth, Dorset
BH1 4PG (from Exton Road).

LEE, S/Ldr., P. J. R., Kinperton House, 31a Marine Parade West,
Lee-on-Solent, Hampshire PO13 9LW (temporary address)
(from Canada).

MANTLE, R. I. S., 7 Kingfisher Close, Manor Dene, Thames-
mead, London SE28 8ES (from Surrey).

MARTINA, Mrs. E., 504-7151 Edmonds Street, Burnaby, B.C.,
Canada V3N 1A4 (from Grange Street, Burnaby).

MISSEN, J. A., 74 East Whitecroft 52313—Range Road, 232,
Sherwood Park, Alberta, Canada T8B 1B7 (from Box 99,
Sherwood Park).

MOUQUE, F., 2 Stredwick Drive, Torbay, Auckland 10, New
Zealand (from Snells Beach).

SAGAR, J. B., c/o Doug Stephens Bait and Tackle Shop, 10
Union Street, Newport, Isle of Wight, Hampshire (from
Gurnard).

SHAND, T. J., 47 Southfields, Hendon, London NW4 4LX (from
Danescroft, Brent Street).

WILCOCKSON, D. T., Unit 2, 6 Tuhimata Street, St. Heliers,
Auckland, New Zealand, (from Milford, New Zealand).

WILKINSON, R. E., Lamont, Taylors Lane, Pilling, Lancashire
PR3 6AB (from Merseyside).

ERRATUM

COOK, Major A. J., should read 134 and not 34 as shown in
the last issue.

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BAMFORD, J., Hotel and Caravan Site, Blagdon Manor, Totnes Road,
Paignton, South Devon. (R) (BB). Tel: Paignton 558340.

BARNES, R. J. Barnacle, Shilton, nr. Coventry. (LH).

BEARRYMAN, H. C., Lower Dean Farm Hotel, Trentishoe, Parracombe,
N. Devon EX31 4PJ. Tel: Parracombe 215. (R) (BB)

BIRD, A. & L., Kumba Guest House, Chudleigh Road, East-the-Water,
Bideford, North Devon EX39 4AR. (BB) (EM).

BRODERICK, P., Salisbury Arms Hotel, Hertford, Herts. (R). Telephone:
53091.

CHERRILL, G. W., Amberley Guest House, Chirsty's Lane, Shaftesbury,
Dorset. Tel: 0747 3902. (BB) (EM)

CHINN, E., The Rising Sun, Worminghall Road, Ickford, Bucks. (LH).

DACK, G., Oaklands Hotel and Country Club, 89 Yarmouth Road,
Thorpe, Norwich NOR 93T (2-star).

DAVIES, V. G., The King's Head, High Street, Haddenham, Aylesbury,
Bucks. (LH).

EDWARDS, J. A., The Earl Haig, Little Heath Road, Bexleyheath, Kent.
(LH).

HENWOOD, B. P., Arosa Guest House, 23 Pinecliffe Avenue, Southbourne,
Bournemouth BH6 3PY. (BB) (EM).

KENNEDY, C., Clayton Leisure Park, Nr. Guardbridge, St. Andrews, Fife.
(R) (in caravans)

LAMOND, R., Beit Tiberia, Knockard Road, Pitlochry PH16 5HJ.
Tel: Pitlochry 2755. (BB).

MacDOUGALL, N. M. S., Foyer's Hotel, Loch Ness, Inverness-shire. (R).

McMAHON, P., Anchor Inn, Leek Wootton, Warwickshire. (LH)

MILLARD, W. F., The White Hart Inn and Restaurant, Bridestowe, Nr.
Okehampton, Devon EX20 4NP. (LH). Tel: Bridestowe 318 and 303.

SUTHERILL, B., The Swan Hotel, St. Clears, Dyfed, S. Wales. (LH).

USHER, D. B., Grenadier Hotel, Trimdon Avenue, Acklam, Middlesbrough,
Cleveland.

WILSON, T., The Dun Cow Inn, Old Elvet, Durham City. (LH).

WRIGHT, G. A., The Victoria Coach, Victoria Square, Truro, Cornwall
TR1 2RS. (LH).

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THE SOUKH

Every Member of the P.P.O.C.A. is expected to have in his possession, for wear on appropriate occasions, some distinctive article or articles of utility or sartorial adornment which will identify him as having served with the finest body of men the Colonial Service has ever known—the Palestine Police.

The following articles, AVAILABLE ONLY TO PAID-UP MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION, may be obtained at the prices stated. As we have no staff to deal with credit sales or C.O.D., please send remittance with order. Members are requested to include in the remittance sufficient to cover postage, by surface mail or air-mail, whichever mode of despatch they prefer. Net weight of each article is given as a guide when calculating postage.

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Address Date

(When completed, this form should be forwarded

to the General Secretary for registration—NOT DIRECT TO THE BANK).

TEAR ALONG DOTTED LINE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 1984

March 10th	London Branch BUFFET/DANCE	Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre
March 17th	Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Kenilworth Moat House Nr. Kenilworth
April 14th	Yorkshire Branch DINNER/DANCE	York Racecourse Restaurant
May 5th	East Midlands Branch BUFFET/DANCE	Robin Hood Hotel, Newark
May 19th	Merseyside Branch DINNER/DANCE	Centre Hotel, Liverpool
August 25th	Scottish Branch DINNER/DANCE	Station Hotel Perth
September 8th	South-Eastern Counties Branch DINNER/DANCE	Beach Hotel Littlehampton
October 6th	Association A.G.M. (3.15 p.m.)	The Cardinal Westminster, S.W.1
October 6th	Association Reunion DINNER (6.30 p.m.)	Westminster Cathedral Conference Centre
October 7th	CENOTAPH PARADE AND SERVICE (10.30 a.m.)	Whitehall, S.W.1
October 27th	South Midlands Branch DINNER/DANCE	Blunsdon House Hotel Nr. Swindon
December 1st	Southern & Western Counties Branch DINNER/DANCE	Courtlands Hotel Bournemouth